

# Love and Lies

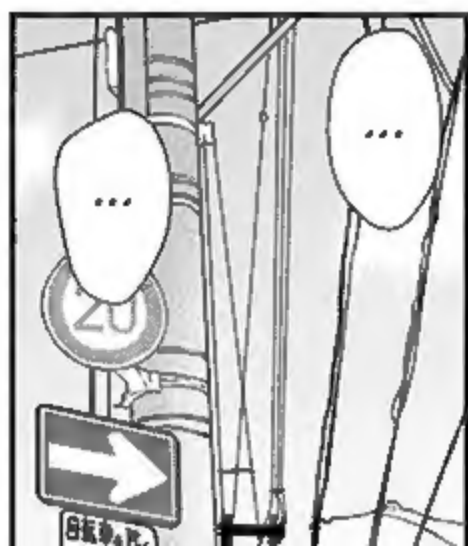
Only one semester left...

Neji thinks that Nisaka likes  
Takasaki-san too...

And he thinks that Nisaka has  
revealed his feelings to him.

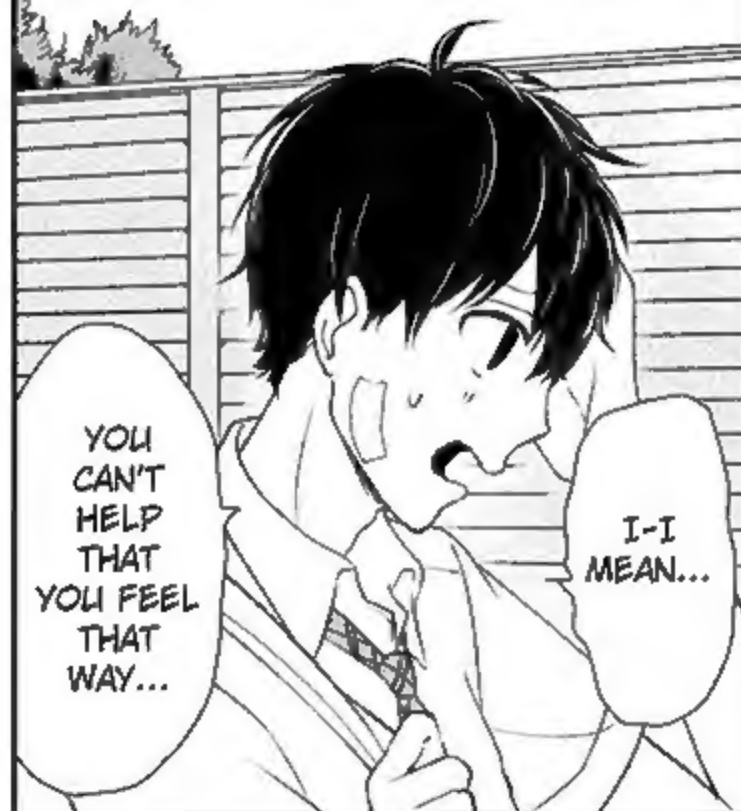




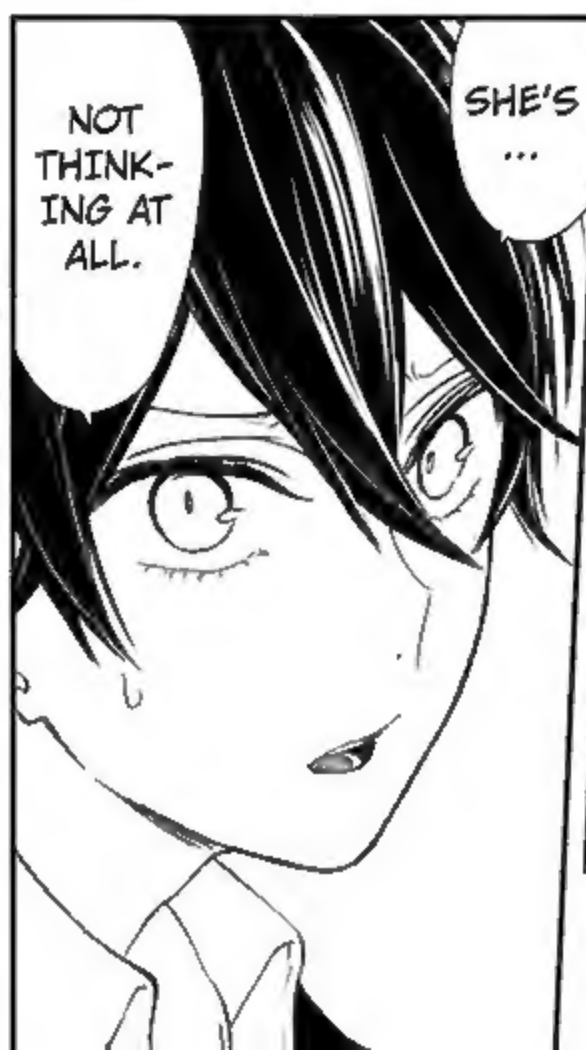


















IT'S A GIRL!

HOW DO WE KNOW?

BECAUSE SHE GOES TO A GIRLS' SCHOOL!

NEXT TIME: "STRANGE GIRL!"



# Love and Lies

At a prestigious all-girls school, Lilina is having a *great* time all by her lonesome when a mysterious girl appears before her.

Her name is Mimasaka-san.

1ST SEMESTER TEST GRADES  
(11TH GRADE)

PLACE	NAME	MARK
1 <sup>ST</sup>	L L NA SANADA	585
2 <sup>ND</sup>	ARISA MIMASAKA	579
3 <sup>RD</sup>	CHIE MIYAKAWA	571
4 <sup>TH</sup>	YUMI HASEDA	564

2ND

ARISA MIMASAKA

579












THAT'S  
THE  
FIRST  
TIME I'VE  
EVER  
MANAGED  
TO SAY  
THAT!



WOW, A  
TONGUE-  
TWISTER!  
THAT WAS  
GREAT!




A  
TEACH-  
ER...?



WAIT...  
NAOKI...  
NAOKI...

...!



YES! HE  
WAS THE  
STUDENT  
TEACHER WHO  
TAUGHT YOUR  
HOMEROOM  
CLASS SIX  
YEARS AGO!

I'M  
HIS  
SISTER!

IT BEGINS...

LILINA "SNOOTY" SANADA'S YOUTH!

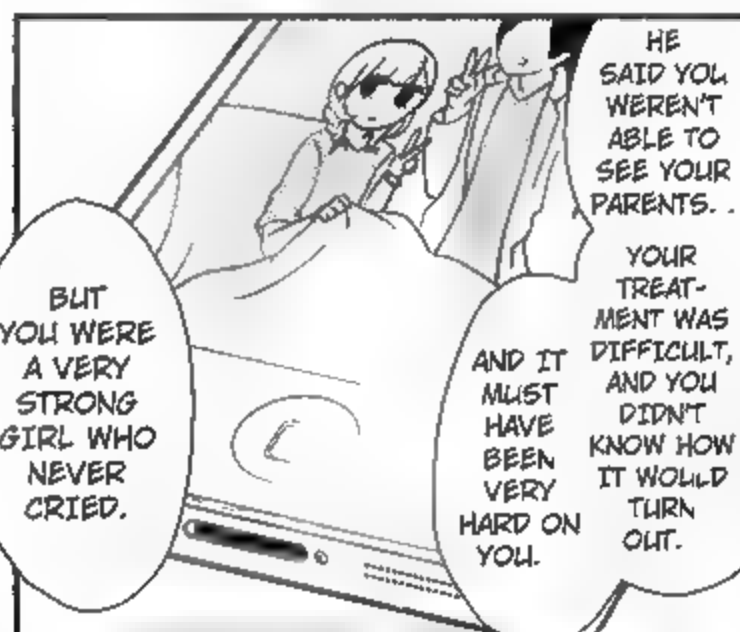
NEXT TIME: "LILINA'S STRENGTH AND LILINA'S WEAKNESS"

# Love and Lies

Lonely Lilina meets a girl who wants to be friends: Arisa Mimasaka. She knew about Lilina when she was younger and often ill. Slowly, Lilina's fate changes.



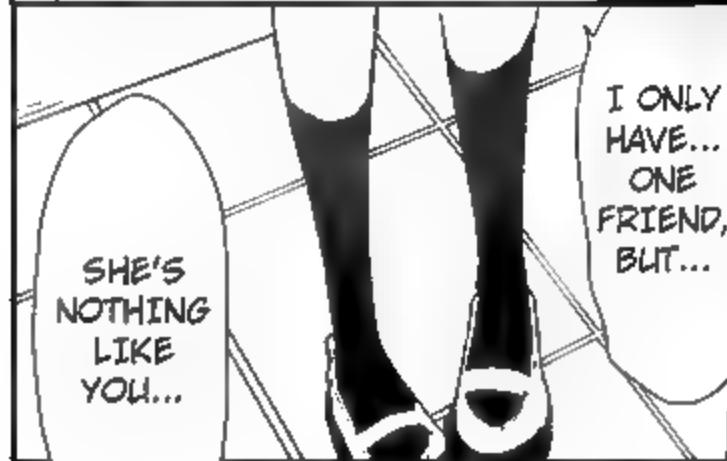
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SOMEONE SHE'S NEVER MET...  
FEELINGS SHE'S NEVER KNOWN...  
MIRACLES WILL VISIT EVEN  
ORDAINED LOVE.

NEXT TIME: "THE DISTANCE BEFORE THE KISS"





# Love and Lies

Lilina feels lost in the face of her improving fate. Misaki Takasaki is has reached some kind of resolution. Nisaka is silent. Neji continues to struggle, but God will not allow him that.

An event is coming that will crash down on each of their romances...

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NI-SAKA  
...

IT'S  
ALMOST  
SUMMER  
VACATION!  
SERIOUS-  
LY!

NO, IT'S  
NOT! WE  
ALREADY  
PICKED  
THE TITLE  
FOR THE  
YEAR  
OUT  
OF A  
HAT!

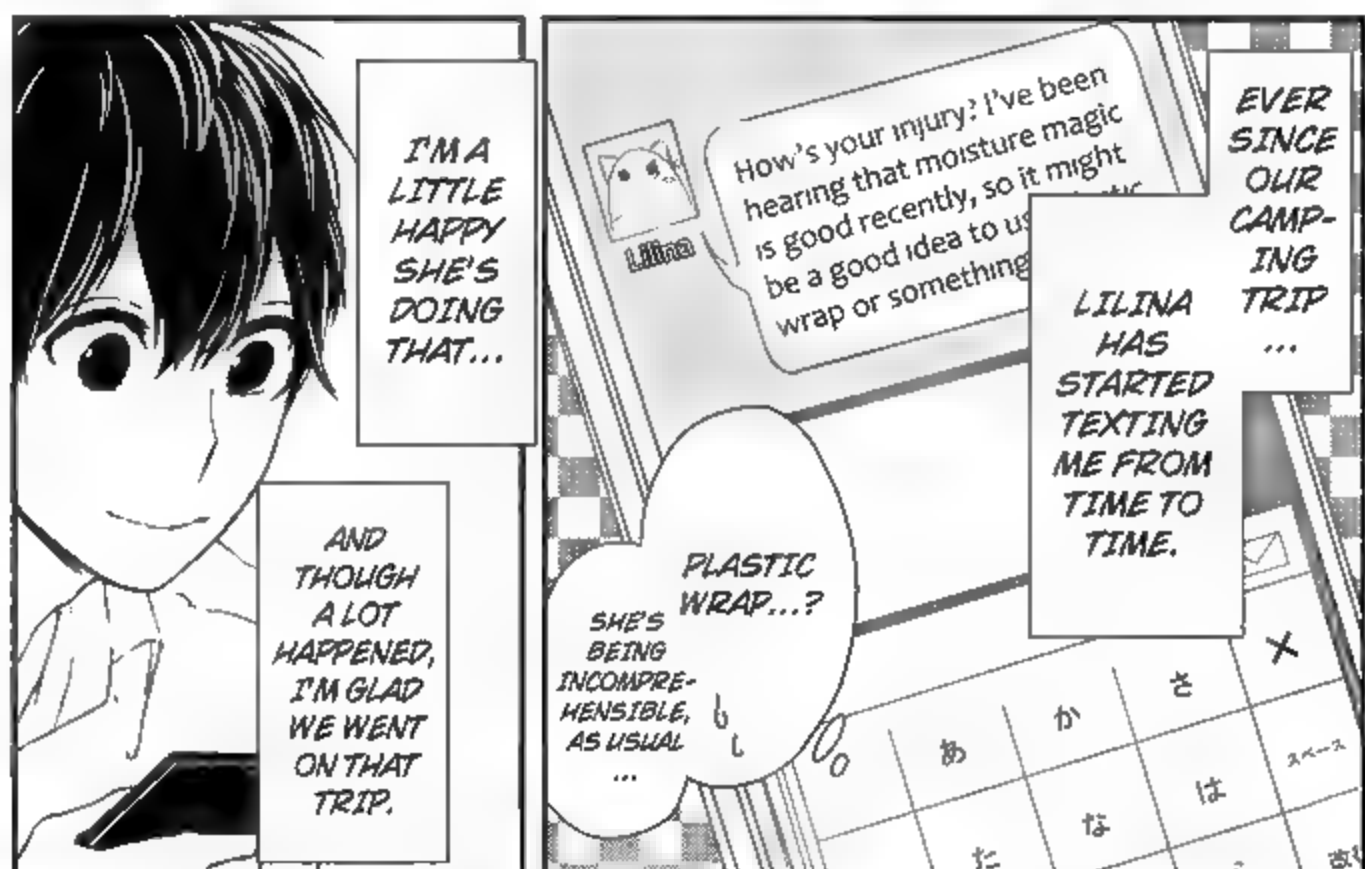
YOU  
CAN'T  
COM-  
PLAIN  
NOW!

ROMEO AND JULIET

ROMEO  
AND  
JULIET  
...

IS  
JUST SO  
TACKY!

IS  
OUT-  
TING  
CLASS,  
HUH.  
...



I'M A  
LITTLE  
HAPPY  
SHE'S  
DOING  
THAT...

AND  
THOUGH  
A LOT  
HAPPENED,  
I'M GLAD  
WE WENT  
ON THAT  
TRIP.

PLASTIC  
WRAP...?

SHE'S  
BEING  
INCOMPRE-  
HENSIBLE,  
AS USUAL  
...

How's your injury? I've been  
hearing that moisture magic  
is good recently, so it might  
be a good idea to use  
wrap or something

EVER  
SINCE  
OUR  
CAMP-  
ING  
TRIP  
...

LILINA  
HAS  
STARTED  
TEXTING  
ME FROM  
TIME TO  
TIME.

IT'S  
JUST...



I DON'T  
KNOW  
IF I'M  
ALLOWED  
TO TALK  
TO HER AT  
SCHOOL...

IT MIGHT  
HAVE  
BEEN MY  
IMAGINATION,  
BUT I FELT  
LIKE WE'D  
GOTTEN A  
LITTLE  
CLOSER, SO  
THIS GETS  
ME DOWN.

TAKA-  
SAKI-  
SAN...

IS  
AVOID-  
ING  
ME...



HM...  
BUT HE  
GETS  
GOOD  
GRADES.

I  
SWEAR,  
HE'S  
GONNA  
HAVE TO  
REPEAT  
THE  
YEAR!

THAT NISAKA!  
IT'S ALMOST  
SUMMER  
VACATION AND  
HE'S SKIPPING  
ALL THE TIME  
JUST BECAUSE  
WE HAVE  
SHORTER  
CLASSES  
NOW

I'VE  
BEEN  
DESPER-  
ATELY  
SEARCH-  
ING...  
  
FOR A  
POINT  
OF  
CONTACT  
WITH  
HER.



SEE YOU,  
NISAKA!

YEAH,  
BYE

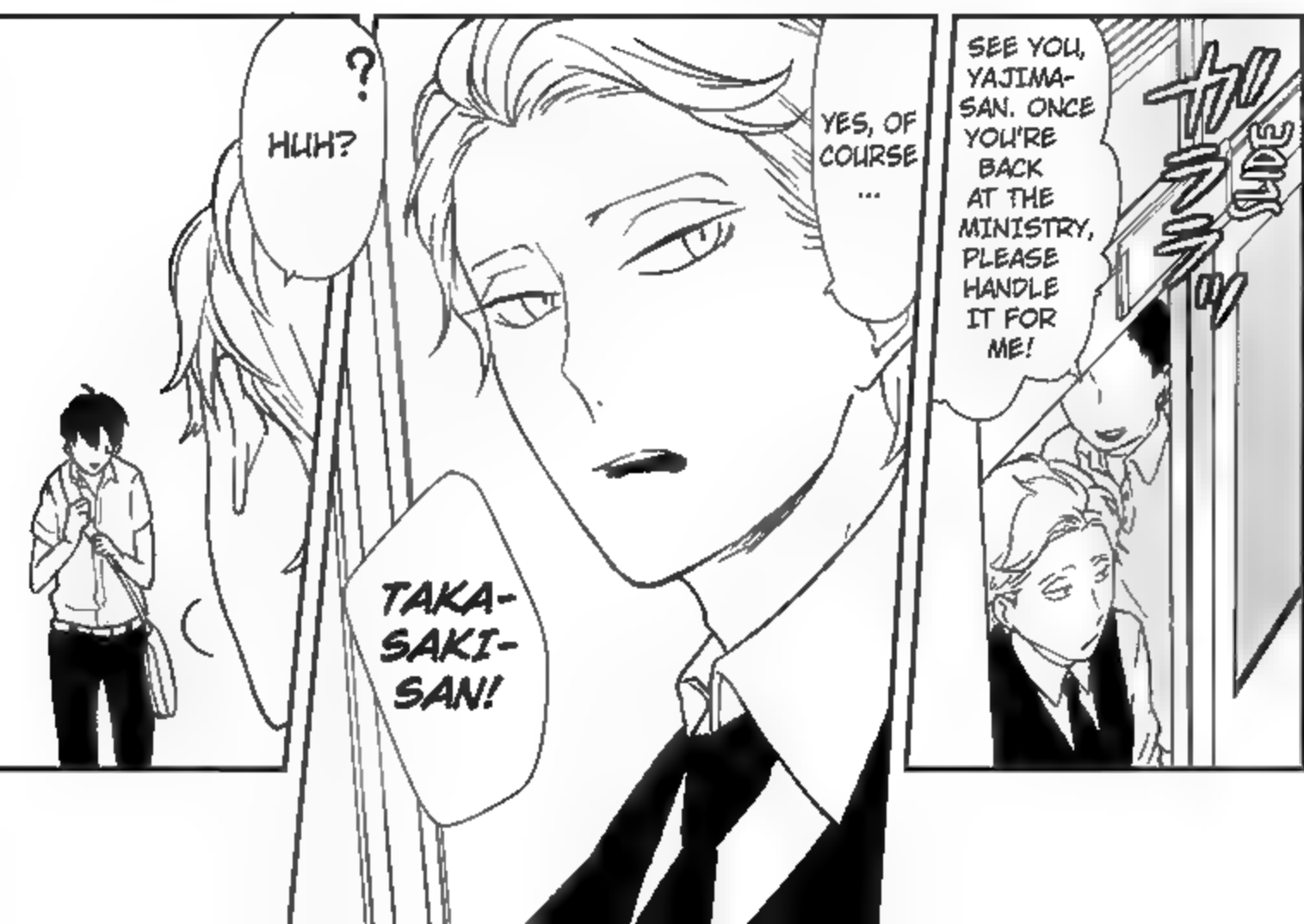
I DUNNO...  
THAT'S  
EXPENDING  
ENERGY,  
SO I DON'T  
THINK HE  
WOULD.

MAYBE  
HE'LL  
CALCULATE  
FOR ME  
HOW MANY  
DAYS I'M  
SAFE  
TO SKIP!

AGH!  
WHAT  
THE  
HELL! HE  
REALLY  
DOES  
EXPEND  
NO MORE  
THAN THE  
MINIMUM  
AMOUNT  
OF  
ENERGY!

I ASKED  
HIM BEFORE,  
AND HE SAID  
HE'S KEEPING  
TRACK OF HOW  
MANY TIMES  
HE CAN GET  
AWAY WITH  
SKIPPING,  
SO IT'S  
OKAY







OH...  
GO  
AHEAD...  
SORRY  
FOR  
STOPPING  
YOU...



I'M  
KIND  
OF...

IN A  
HURRY  
...

SOR-  
RY.



WITH  
TAKA-  
SAKI-  
SAN  
AND  
ME...

AHA...  
MAYBE  
SO...

IS THE  
HEAT  
MAKING  
YOU  
CRAZY?  
WHY  
WERE YOU  
TRYING  
TO TALK  
TO HER?



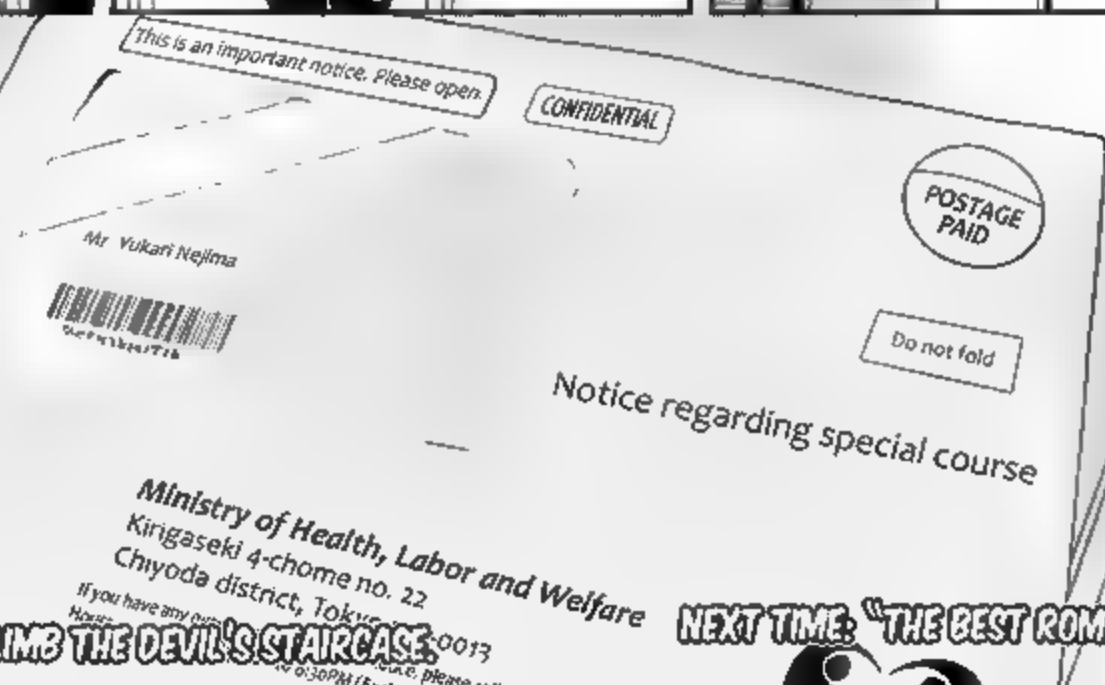
JUST...

BEING  
ABLE TO  
SEE HER  
FACE  
MAKES  
ME SO  
HAPPY...

BUT  
EVEN  
SO...



THIS  
IS THE  
REALITY  
WHEN  
LILINA  
ISN'T  
PLAYING  
MATCH-  
MAKER.



THE ESSENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE SYSTEM FINALLY COMES INTO PLAY...

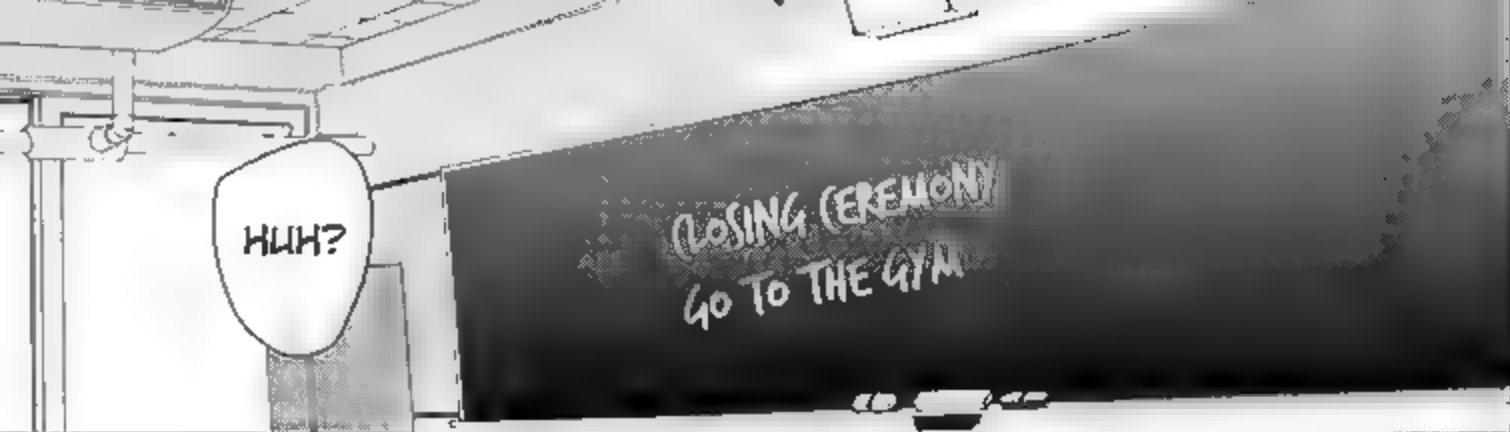
NOW THEY BEGIN TO CLIMB THE DEVIL'S STAIRCASE.

NEXT TIME: "THE BEST ROMEO"



She's  
Juliet,  
but I  
can't  
even be  
Romeo.

# Love and Lies











OH!  
NISA-  
KA!

WELL, EVEN IF I DID PARTICIPATE,  
I'D JUST GET ASSIGNED TO SCENERY  
AND PAINTING THE BACKGROUND,  
ANYWAY...

IT'S  
PROBABLY  
BETTER IF  
I DON'T GO  
TO SOME  
POSSIBLY  
ENDLESS  
MEETING.



YEAH.

LOOKS  
LIKE  
WE GOT  
OFF.



TOO BAD  
FOR YOU,  
THOUGH!  
THEY'RE  
HAVING A  
MEETING  
ABOUT THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
NOW!

UGH...  
I'M  
GOING  
HOME,  
THEN.



WHY  
ARE YOU  
HERE  
NOW? THE  
CLOSING  
CEREMONY  
IS OVER!

THAT'S  
WHY I  
CAME.

HE'S JUST  
GONNA TAKE  
HIS REPORT  
CARD AND  
LEAVE.



NO,  
THERE'S  
LIKE SOME  
KIND OF  
SPECIAL  
COURSE  
THING WE  
HAVE TO  
GO TO.

HUH?  
YOU'RE  
SKIP-  
PING?



SORRY,  
BUT  
WE'RE  
GOING  
HOME  
TOO...

JUST  
SIGN ME  
UP FOR  
PROPS OR  
LIGHTING  
OR WHAT-  
EVER.



IS  
SOME-  
THING  
CALLED A  
"SPECIAL  
COURSE"  
...



AMONG  
ONE  
OF THE  
THINGS  
WE  
IMPLE-  
MENT...



WELL,  
I'M SURE  
THERE'S  
NO PROB-  
LEM IN  
TELLING  
YOU...

BUT  
THIS IS  
CONFI-  
DENTIAL.



IS  
THAT  
COURSE  
...



HELD  
BY THE  
MINIS-  
TRY?

NISAKA IS DISTURBED...  
NEJI DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S COMING!

NEXT TIME: "NISAKA AND TAKASAKI"



# Love and Lies

Nisaka knows what's  
really waiting for Neji.  
And now disaster is  
coming to visit him, too!



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# Love and Lies



In this country, you marry whomever the government has decided for you. I know that, but for some reason, it feels like someone else's problem.



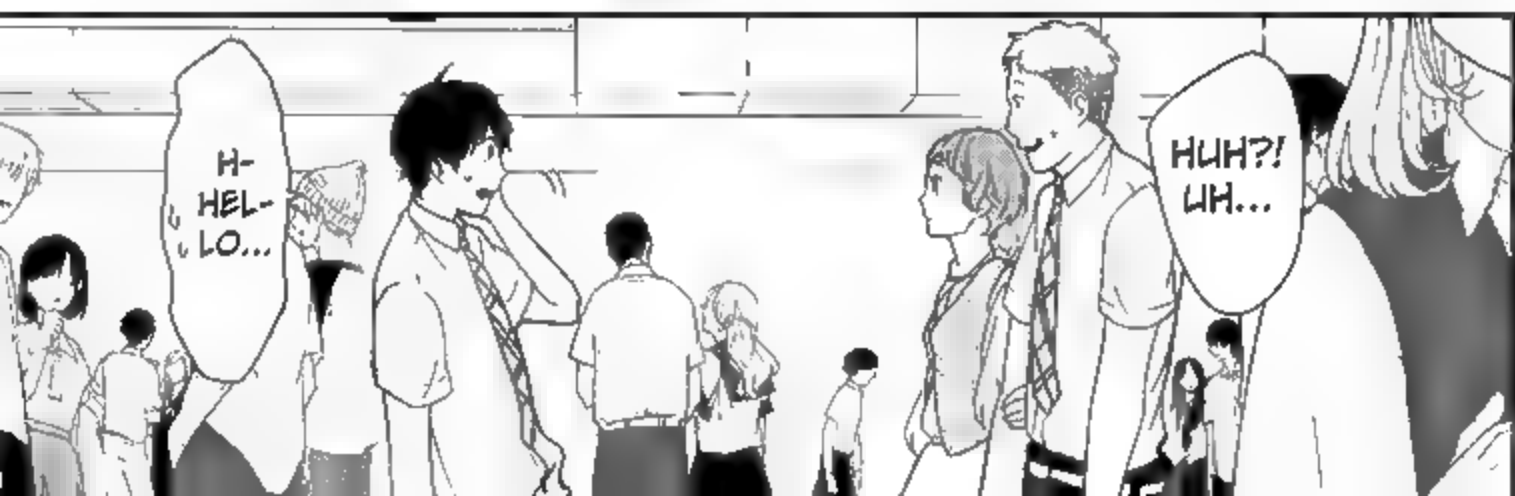


**SPECIAL COURSE  
PARTICIPANT WAITING ROOM**

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BAGS AT  
THE FIRST FLOOR LOBBY.



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SORRY  
I'M LATE!

IT JUST  
TOOK ME  
A WHILE  
TO GET  
READY...

...!

WERE  
YOU  
WAIT-  
ING  
LONG?

THE WORLD STOPPED FOR AN INSTANT.  
THAT WAS PROBABLY HIS IMAGINATION, THOUGH.  
HE WAS JUST STARTLED BY HER NEW HAIRSTYLE.  
YEAH... THAT'S GOT TO BE IT.

NEXT TIME: "TOO FLIGHTY! THE NEW AND LILNA CHAPTER"

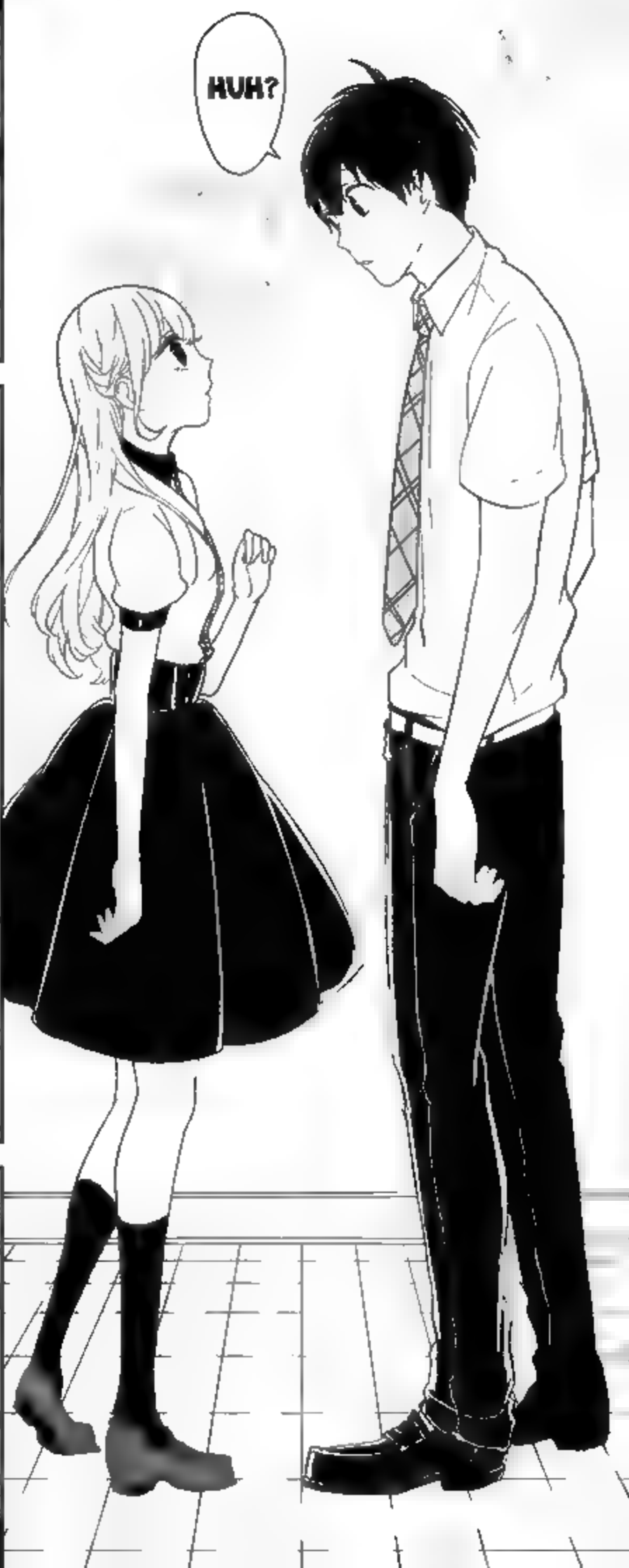


# Love and Lies



*\*HOLLOW UNGLAZED TERRACOTTA  
FIGURES FROM THE KOFUN PERIOD*

*\*Nejima acting like he completely forgot about his moment of attraction to Lilina and the course that is about to start, and instead freaking out over a haniwa.\**



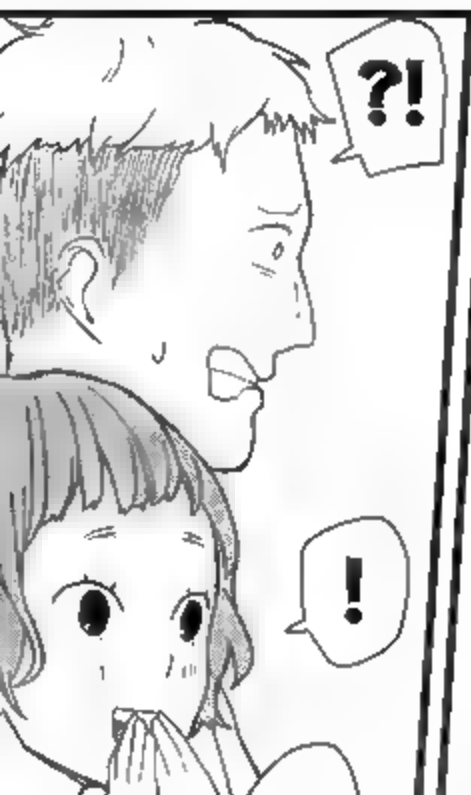
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?!

!

THANK  
YOU...

I'LL  
TREASURE  
IT...



TEE-  
HEE!  
LIKE...



YOU'RE  
SUCH A  
SWEET  
COUPLE!

WHAT  
?!

BLUSH

I CAN  
REALLY  
TELL HOW  
MUCH YOU  
LIKE  
EACH  
OTHER

I CAN'T  
HELP  
SMILING  
WHEN I  
LOOK  
AT YOU  
TWO!  
IT  
MAKES  
ME REAL-  
IZE HOW  
AMAZING  
THE GOV-  
ERNMENT  
NOTICE  
SYSTEM  
IS...

HUH?

THE  
COURSE  
IS NOW  
STARTING.  
PLEASE  
COME IN!

SHE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE  
TIME TO BE CONFUSED BY THAT  
SURPRISING EXCLAMATION.  
THE COURSE IS BEGINNING.

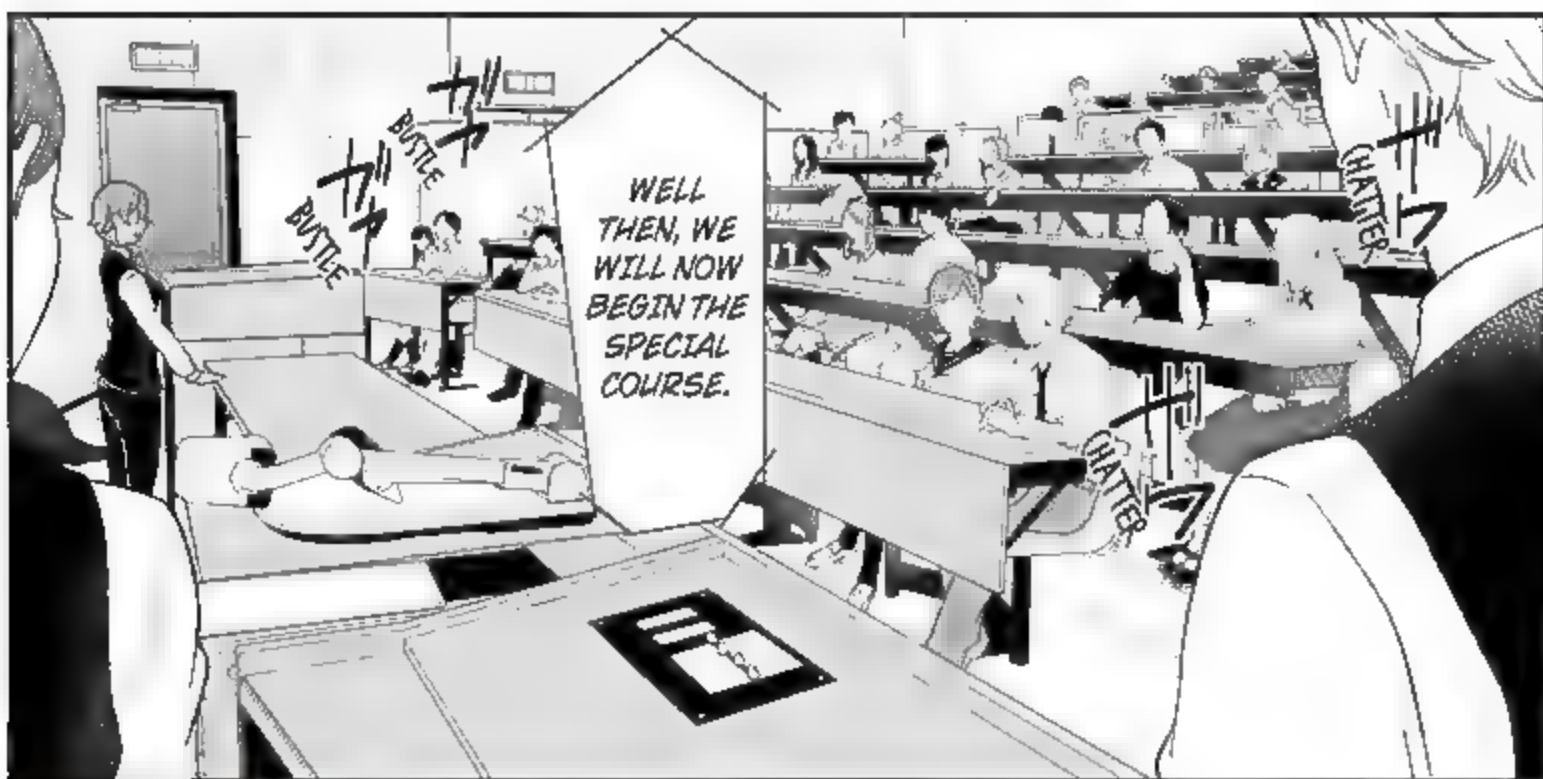
NEXT TIME:  
"THE GATE OF DARKNESS"



# Love and Lies

Neji has given his heart to Takasaki-san, but  
who does Lilina want to be in love with?

Neji leaves that question behind him as  
the special course begins!

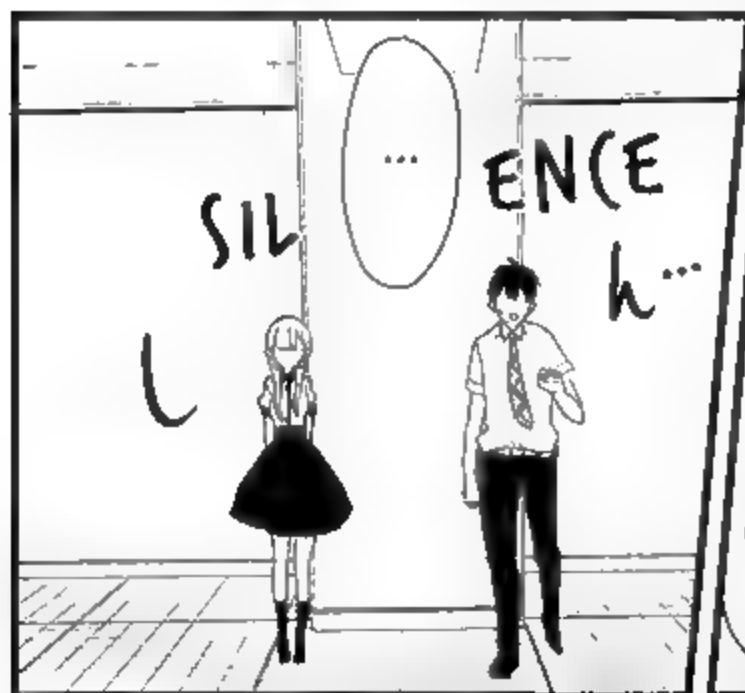


**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**

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THE BIRTH RATE, WHICH HAD FALLEN TO 1.2 PERCENT IN THE 00'S, IS NOW STABILIZED AT AROUND 2.1 PERCENT

THE POLICY IN RESPONSE TO SEVERELY DECLINING BIRTH RATES HAS BORNE FRUIT WITH ALL OF YOUR COOPERATION...

OH...

THIS IS PRETTY ACADEMIC... I MEAN, IT'S A BORING LECTURE...

YOU ARE WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE YUKARI GENERATION.

AND MOST OF YOUR PARENTS WERE GOVERNMENT-ARRANGED COUPLES AS WELL.

EVERYONE WHO IS GATHERED HERE TODAY HAS RECEIVED THEIR GOVERNMENT NOTICES...



YOU WERE ALL BORN AS A RESULT OF YOUR PARENTS HAVING SEX.

BUT RATHER THROUGH **SEXUAL INTER-COURSE** ...

I'M SURE YOU ALL KNOW THAT BABIES ARE NOT BROUGHT TO US BY STORKS ...

AND AS THE YUKARI GENERATION, THOSE BORN WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEALING WITH REPOPULATION...



WHAT ARE THOSE... PRINT-OUTS?

CHATTER

CHATTER



PLEASE PASS THESE TO THE BACK.

AND NOW IT'S YOUR TURN, AS THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED YOUR NOTICES.





HUH?



HEY,  
WAIT,  
THESE  
ARE

FOR  
REAL?

WHAT,  
WHAT?

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER



ON THE  
SUBJECT.

TODAY  
YOU WILL  
HAVE A  
LECTURE  
AND  
TRAIN-  
ING...

SHE'S JUST HANDED OUT 03MM  
THICK SACRED TREASURES.

NEXT TIME: "WHAT LOVERS DO"



# Love and Lies

If you have a lover, **that** is an issue which you must eventually face. Neji didn't think he'd have to face it so soon, though.

**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**

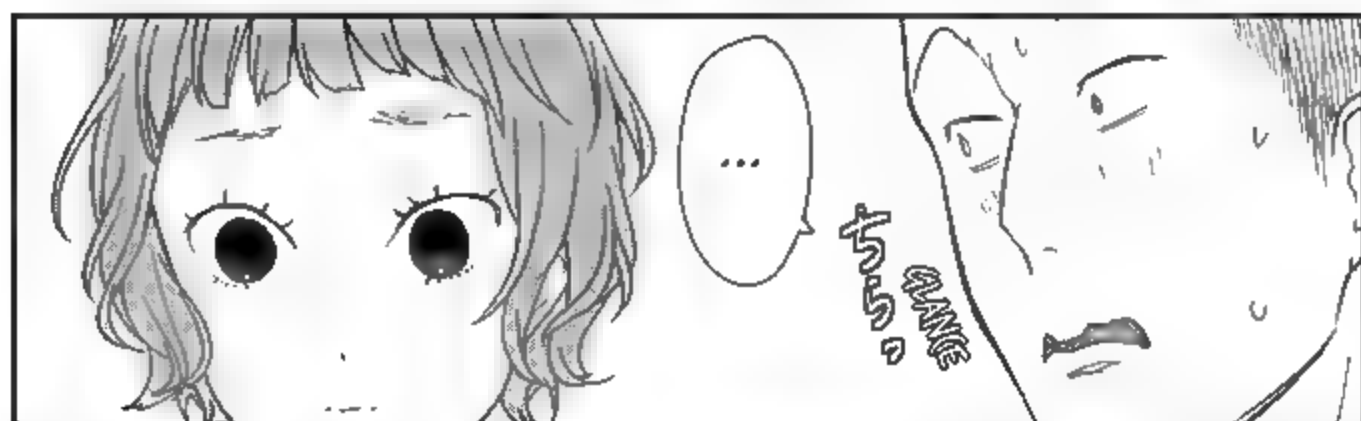
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AND IN FEMALES IT PROMOTES THE EXCRETION OF HORMONES THAT BEAUTIFY THE HAIR AND SKIN.

FIRST OF ALL...

MALES DECREASE THEIR RISK OF PROSTATE CANCER WITH REGULAR INTERCOURSE...



HAVING SEX CAN MAKE YOU PRETTIER AND SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE OF DIETING! GREAT, HUH?

WHAT'S MORE, ONE HOUR OF SEXUAL INTERCOURSE BURNS BETWEEN 150 AND 200 CALORIES ...

THIS IS EQUAL TO AN HOUR OF WALKING.



HUH...

IT ALSO PROMOTES THE EXCRETION OF A HORMONE CALLED OXYTOCIN, WHICH MAKES YOU FEEL HAPPY...

RELIEVES STRESS, AND BOOSTS YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM. IT'S FULL OF BENEFITS.

HUH ?!

LILINA IS HONESTLY INTRIGUED, AND THAT CONFUSES NEJI-KUN.

NEXT TIME: "CHOSEN COUPLE"



# Love and Lies

Neji and Lilina are participating in the special course presented by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. They receive a lecture on the basics of the government notice system, their relationships with their partners...and sex. They're about to go even deeper into this topic...

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

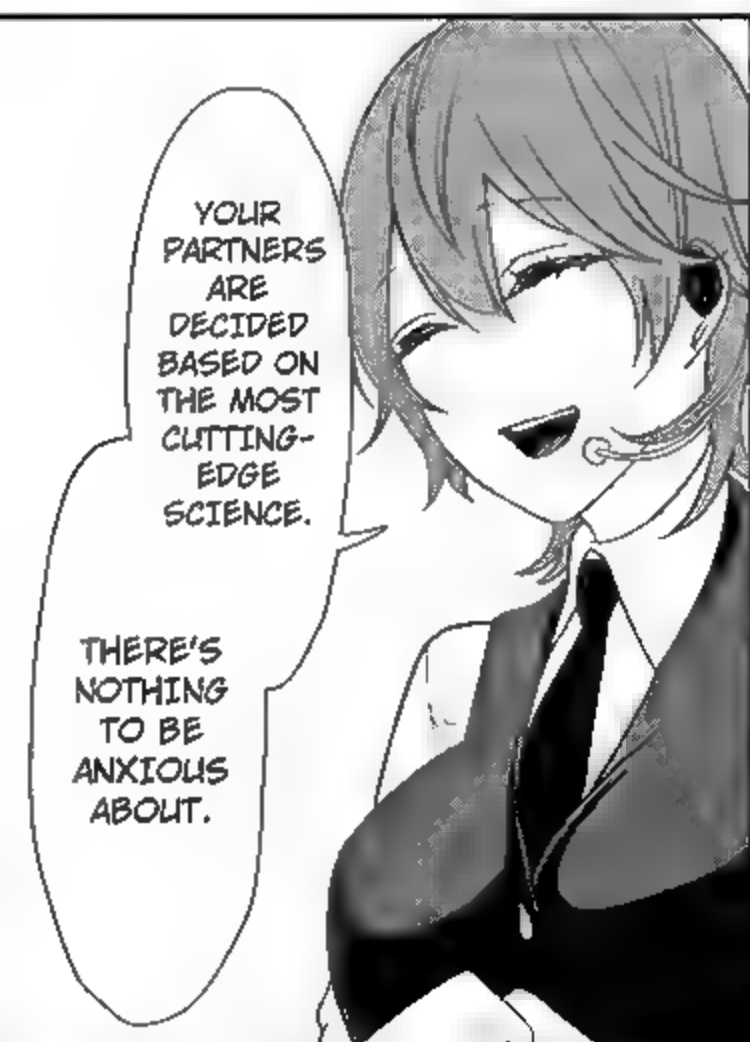
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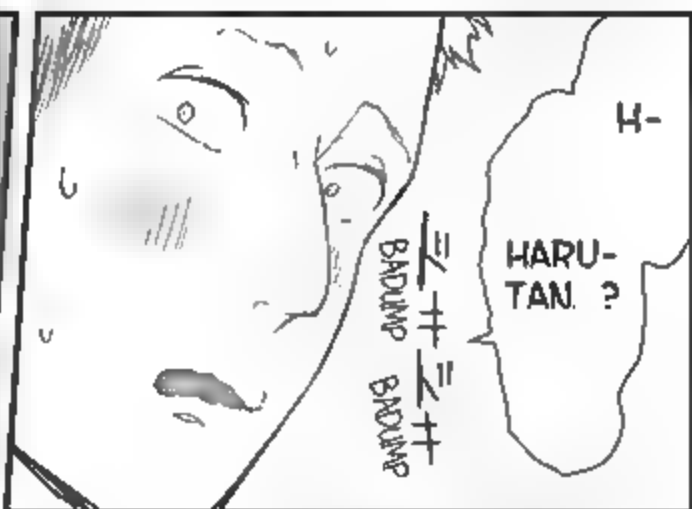
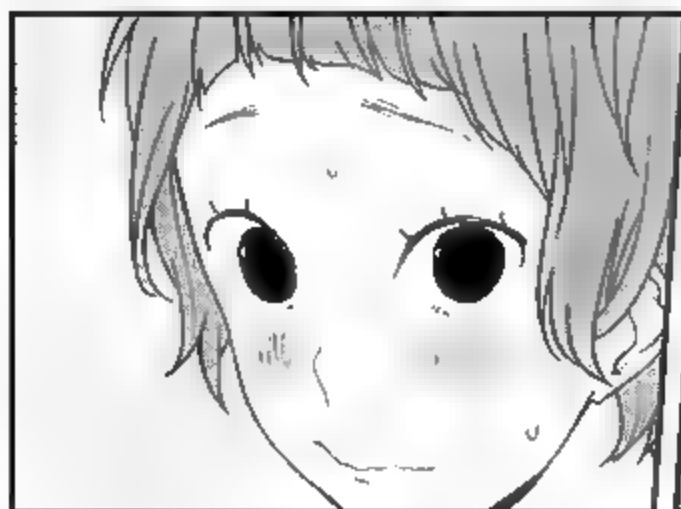












# Love and Lies

Projected on the screen...

is a love scene.



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HUH? IS THIS  
PORN? NO WAY...

SHE SAID  
IT WAS AN  
EDUCATIONAL  
VIDEO...



A COUPLE IN  
THEIR UNDERWEAR  
EMBRACING EACH  
OTHER...



IT'S  
BEEN  
FIVE  
MINUTES  
AND ALL  
THEY'VE  
DONE IS  
KISS...

AH!

AH

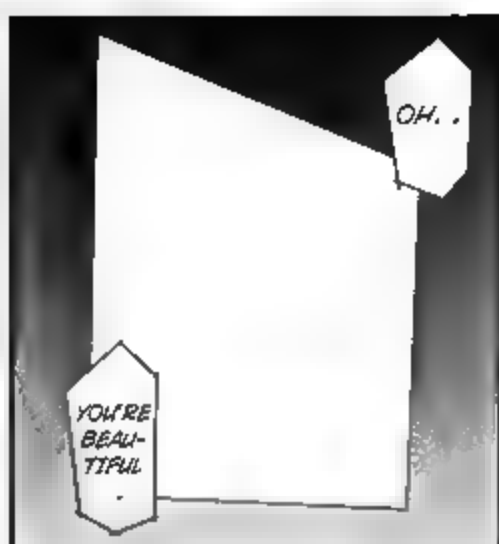
MM

...

HER  
BOOBS  
ARE PRETTY  
SMALL-  
SCALE  
AND THE  
GUY IS ONLY  
MIDDLING  
HEIGHT AND  
BUILD.

IT'S KIND OF  
REALISTIC.

AHH!



OH...

YOU'RE  
BEAU-  
TIFUL



NEJIMA-  
KUN



AHH..  
MM..







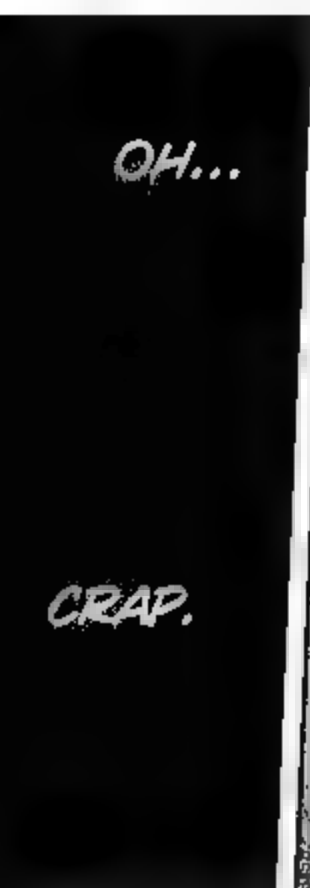
IS THIS...

REAL  
SEX...?!



OH... BUT IT LOOKS  
REALLY NATURAL, AND  
THEY'RE DOING IT IN A  
NORMAL LOCATION...

IS THIS... A HIDDEN  
CAMERA SCENE?



OH...

CRAP.



THIS IS...  
REAL...



WHAT THE  
HECK? THIS  
IS SUPER  
DIRTY...



IT'S DIFFERENT  
FROM THE STUFF  
I'VE SEEN BEFORE...  
THEY'RE JUST CLINGING  
TO EACH OTHER,  
NAKED...



WHAT-  
EVER!  
TIMES  
TABLES  
ARE GOOD  
ENOUGH  
RIGHT NOW!  
FOUR TIMES  
SEVEN IS  
TWENTY-  
EIGHT... AND  
FOUR IS  
THIRTY.

WAIT...  
UM... HOW  
DID IT GO  
AGAIN?  
UH... UH...

HURRY, YUKARI  
NEJIMA, AGE  
SIXTEEN!

OH,  
YEAH! THE  
FACTORING  
QUESTION  
THAT CAME  
UP ON  
THE LAST  
EXAM!

TH-  
THINK  
OF  
SOME-  
THING  
ELSE!



NEXT TIME: "EXCITEMENT, EXCITEMENT, EXCITEMENT!"

THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL AND ALLURING WORLD  
THAT LUNA KNEW NOTHING ABOUT...



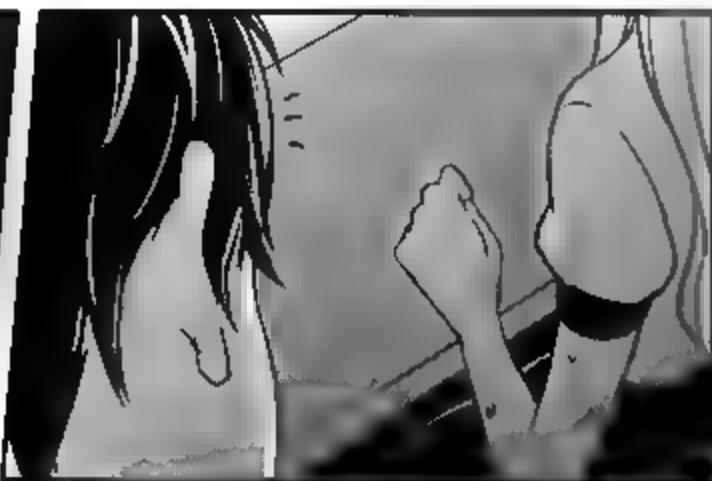
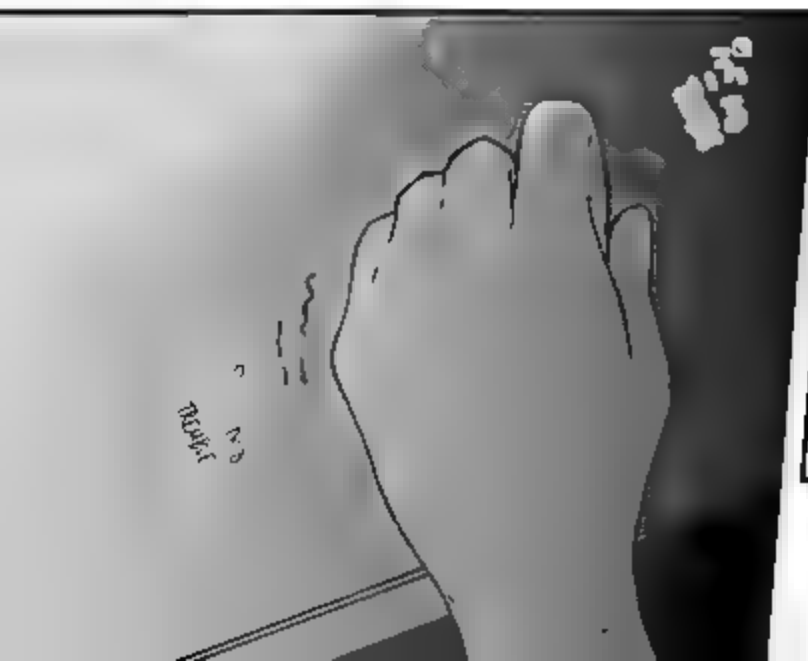
# Love and Lies

Is the 'educational video' part of  
the special course a little too much  
for a pure girl like Lilina?

**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**

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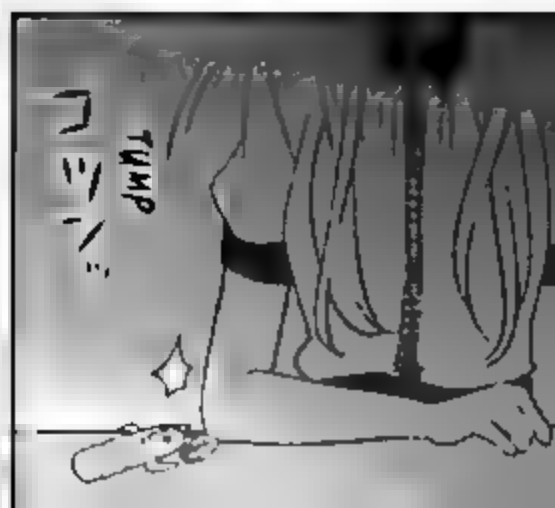
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LILINA...?

BADUMP  
BADUMP  
BADUMP



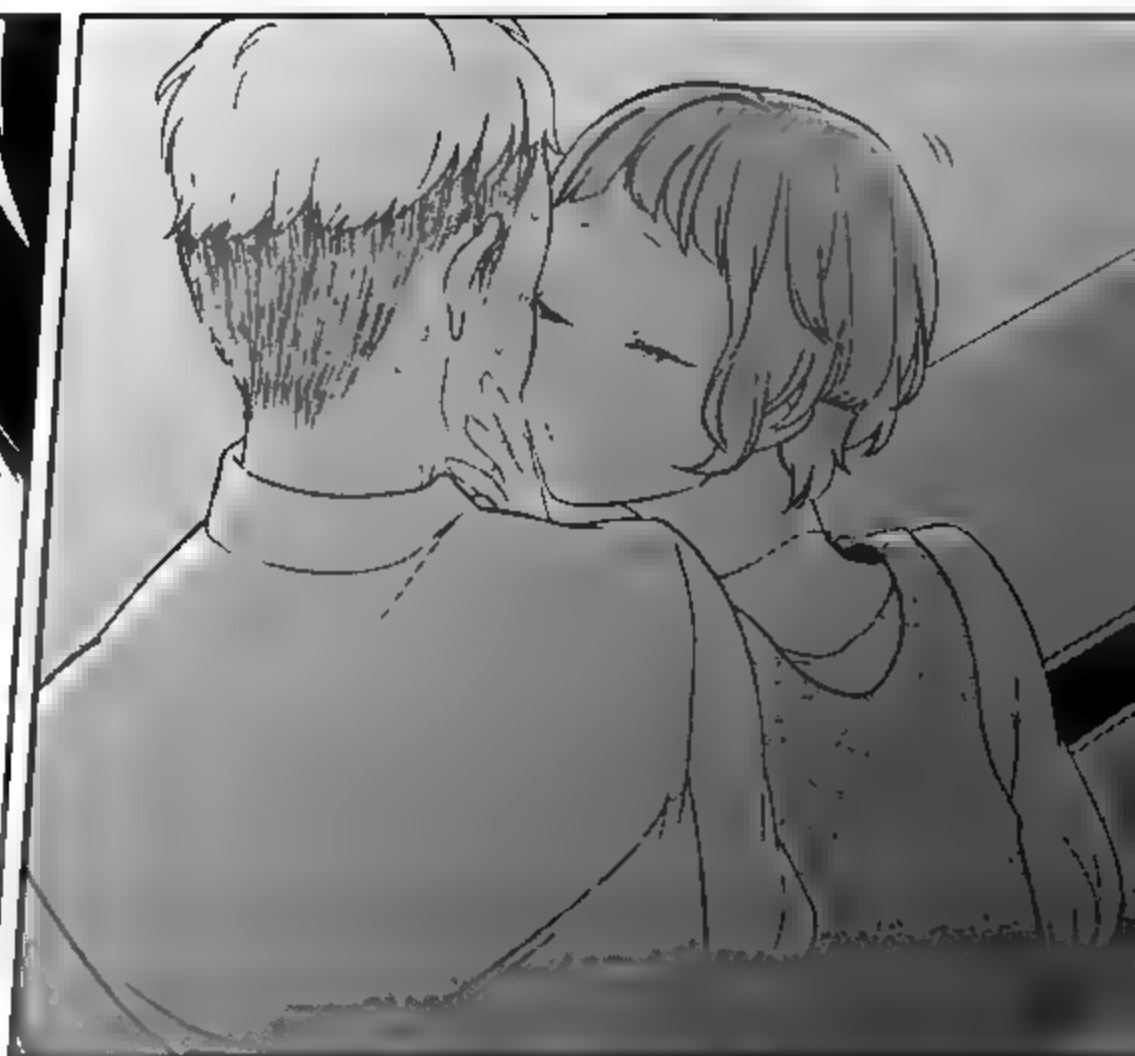
SQUEEZE  
SQUEEZE



WH...

WHAT THE  
HECK...?

WHAT'S THIS  
FEELING...?



LANDMINES HERE, LANDMINES THERE...  
NOWHERE IS SAFE TO LOOK!

NEXT TIME: "THE INEVITABLE CHOICE"

# Love and Lies

When Neji tries to distract himself from his attraction to Lilina by looking elsewhere, he sees Takeda and his partner kissing!

So many things are happening at once, and while Nejima's busy panicking, a certain man appears before him...



BY MUSAHO TSUMUGI

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TH-THIS CAN'T  
BE HAPPENING...  
(WELL, I GUESS  
IT HAS TO BE...

IT'S RIGHT  
THERE IN FRONT OF  
ME, AFTER ALL...

WHAT...  
BUT...



HUH?  
?

SO  
WHICH IS  
THE RIGHT  
ONE, THEN?













I  
M  
G  
SMILE

THIS NIGHT WILL BE LONG, DEEP...  
AND DANGEROUS.

NEXT TIME: "ALONE TOGETHER"



# Love and Lies

They're done watching the educational video and now they're awaiting the hands-on exercise...

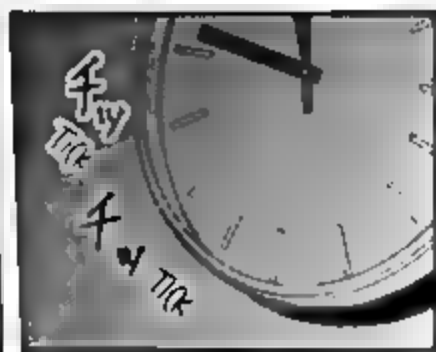
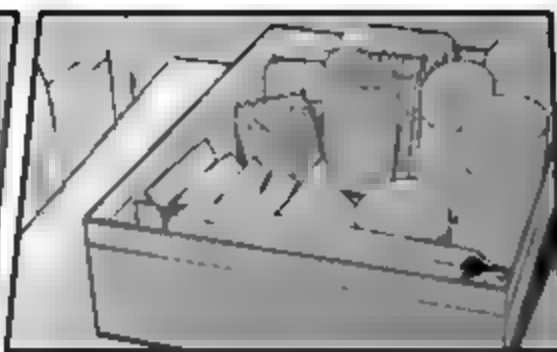
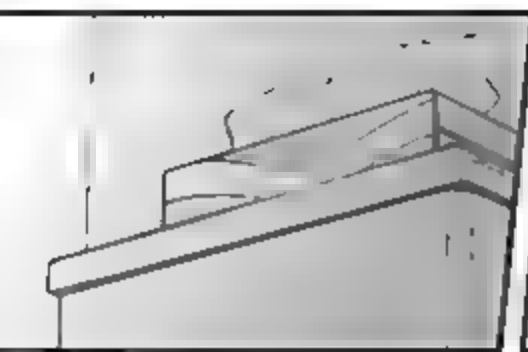
This exercise involves spending the night alone with their partner.

So on other words, it's...?!



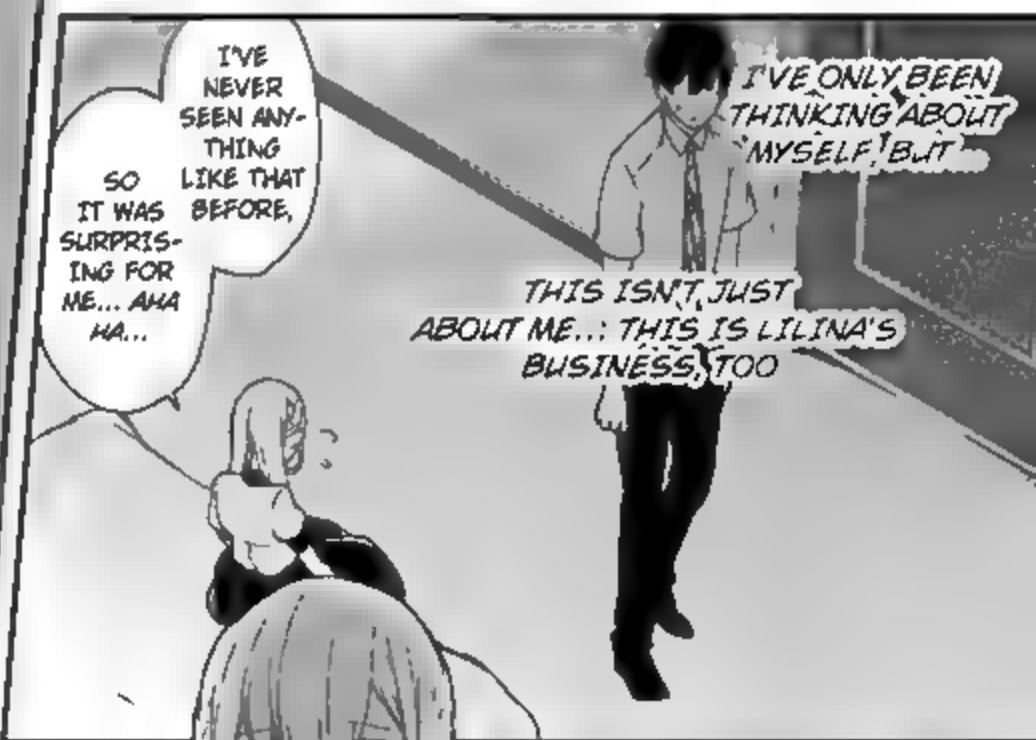














# Love and Lies

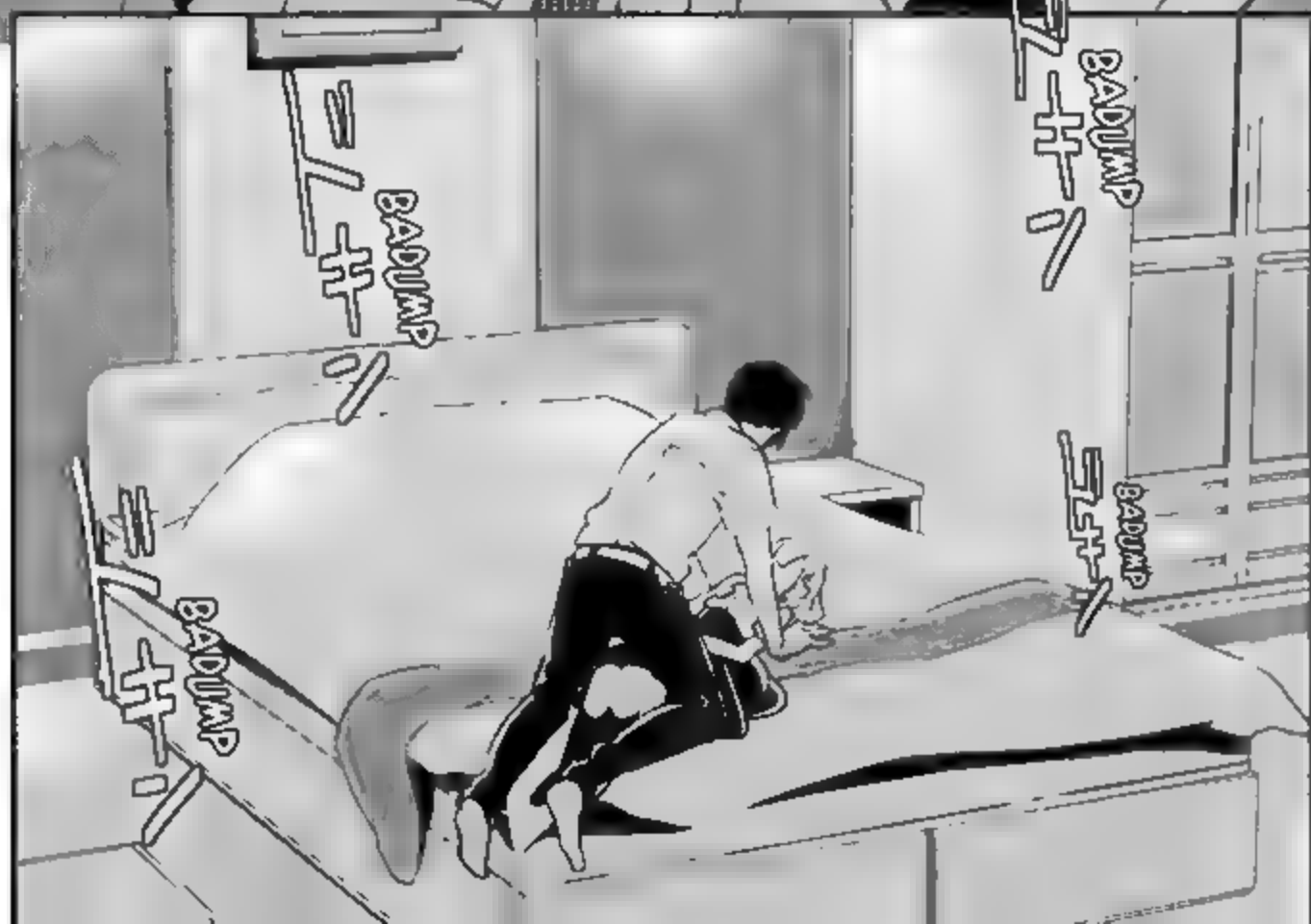
There's rumors of a "penalty" flying around and that what happens while they're alone together will be leaked.

What is Nejima willing to do to protect Lilina?



THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. NAMES, CHARACTERS, PLACES, AND INCIDENTS ARE THE PRODUCTS OF THE AUTHOR'S IMAGINATION OR ARE USED FICTITIOUSLY.







FROM THE WAY HE SAID THAT, THERE'S GOT TO BE A PENALTY OR TWO FOR NOT DOING IT.

IF THERE ARE SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL IF WE'RE ACTUALLY DOING IT OR NOT...



IF WE PRETEND WE'RE DOING IT...

IT'S OKAY...

THIS IS JUST PRETEND...

"IN THE NEXT ROOM YOU GO BE UNDER SURVEILLANCE."



LIM...

IN THE VIDEO WE  
JUST SAW, THEY STARTED  
WITH KISSING...

I GUESS I'LL  
JUST KISS HER,  
THEN?



...OKAY  
WITH THIS?



KISSING  
LILINA...

KISSING...

==  
X  
BADUMP

LILINA...



LILINA...

WAIT...  
IS SHE...



LILINA...

CRACK

THIS IS JUST PRETEND.  
IT'S JUST FOR LILINA'S SAKE...

NEXT TIME: "NEJI'S THOUGHTS/LILINA'S FEELINGS"



BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

MangaBox

TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD  
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON  
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

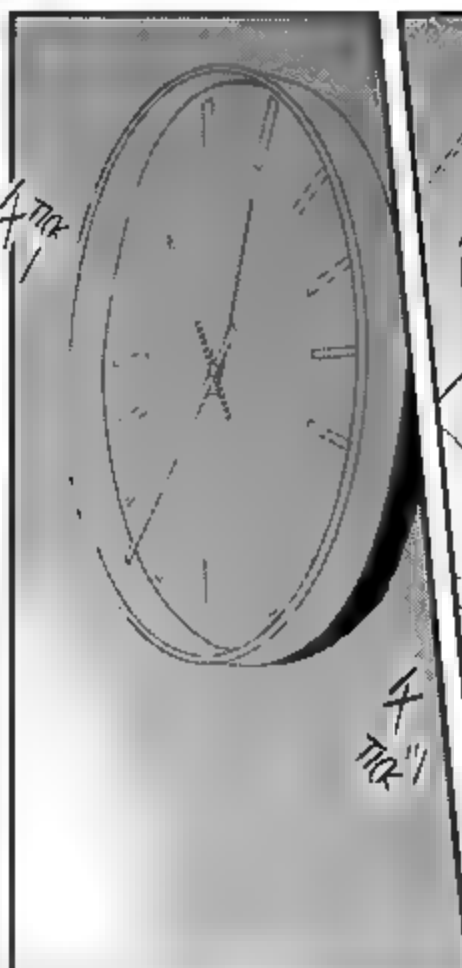


# Love and Lies

Their time alone together was set up for them.  
The mood has been set up for them.

He's doing this to protect her  
from this night of falsehood.
















YOU WERE  
DUPED.

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHO YOU  
HEARD  
THAT  
FROM,  
BUT...



EVEN IF  
WE WERE  
ACTUALLY  
UNDER  
THEY SURVEIL-  
WOULD LANCE...  
BE IN  
THE  
WRONG.

Y-  
YOU  
MEAN IT  
WAS A  
LIE?!

HUH?



...  
**SHE IS CALM...  
AND STRONG.**



I'D  
TAKE  
THEM TO  
COURT,  
OR DO  
ANYTHING  
I HAD  
TO...  
  
TO  
STOP  
THEM.

NEXT TIME: "NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD"

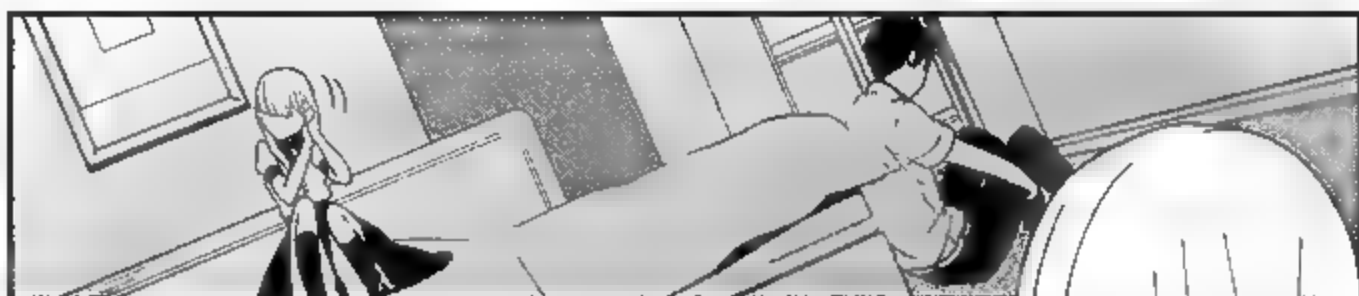


# Love and Lies

They're alone together, and Neji believes they are being watched. Neji pushes Lilina down on the bed in an attempt to avoid negative consequences for her.

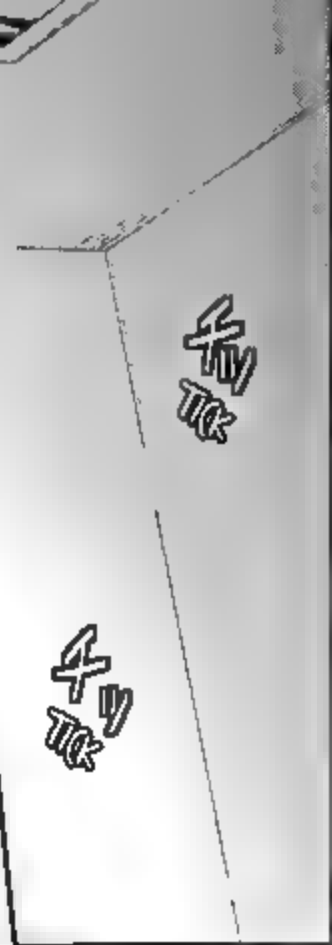
But after Lilina points out that there's no way that what he believes is true, Neji realizes that he was lied to.

An awkward silence falls upon the night.













...

I WAS  
JUST  
WONDER-  
ING HOW  
YOU'RE  
DOING  
...



TOUCH  
ME.



I  
CAN'T  
GET MY  
FEEL-  
INGS  
SORTED  
OUT...

I  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT  
TO DO.



...



LOSE MYSELF.

IT'S LIKE I'D...

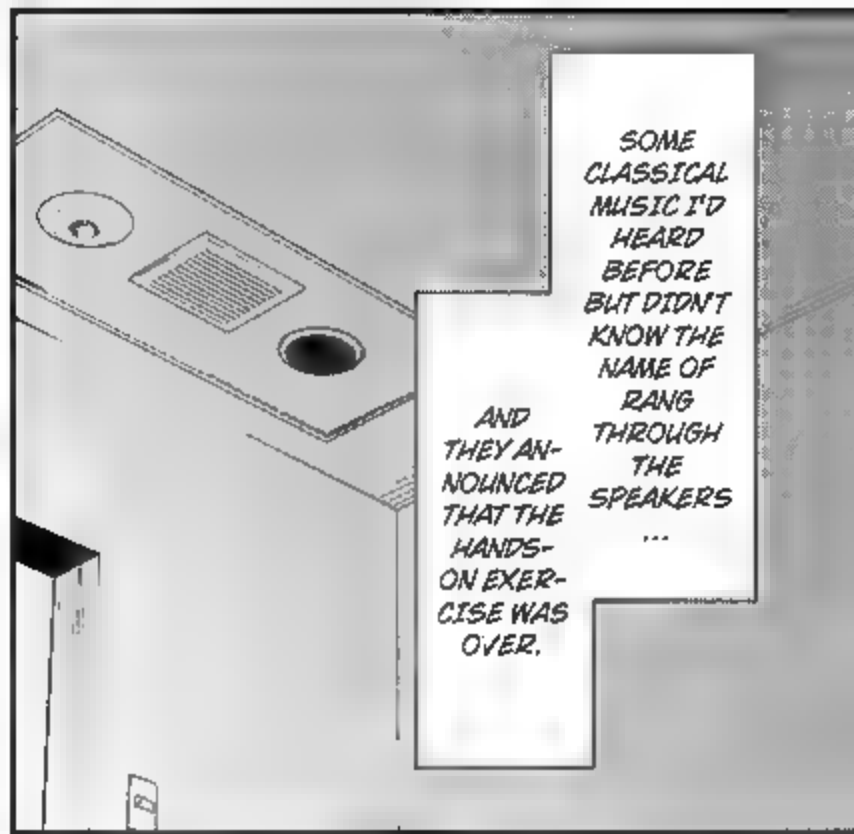


AFTER THAT...

TIME PASSED,  
AND  
MORNING  
CAME...



I NEED  
...  
SOME SPACE.







DID  
YOU DO  
IT WITH  
HER?



YOU  
KNEW  
WHAT?!

I  
KNEW  
IT.



YOU  
WOULD  
HAVE  
DONE IT,  
WOULDN'T  
YOU?

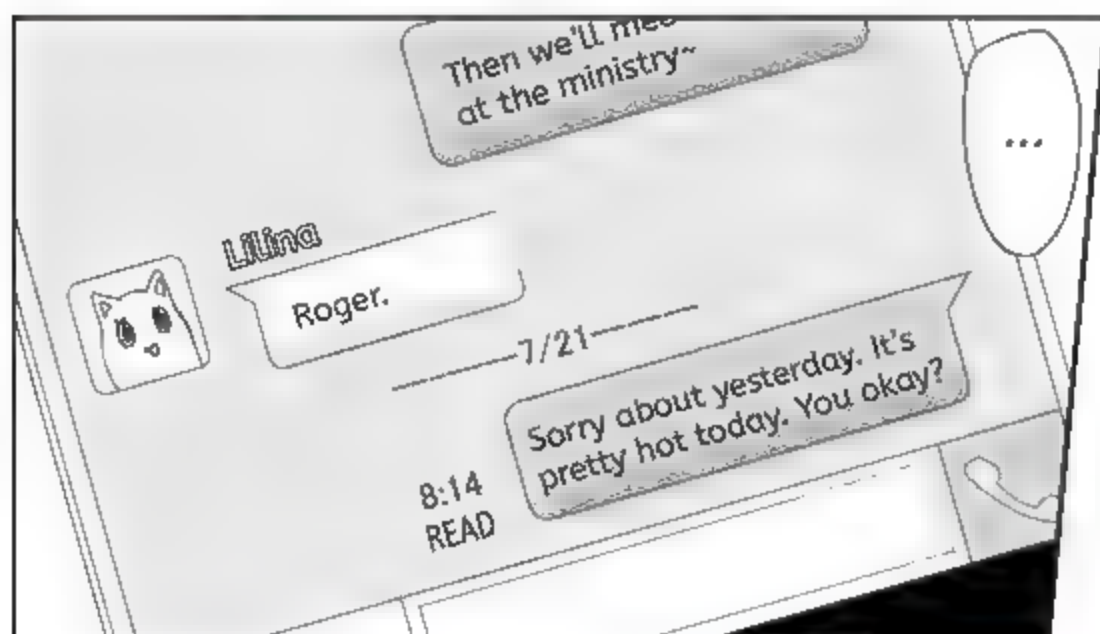
IF  
IT HAD  
BEEN  
THAT  
OTHER  
GIRL...



YAJIMA'S WORDS HIT THEIR MARK.  
WAS THAT A WARNING FROM AN ANGEL?  
OR WHISPERS FROM A DEVIL?

NEXT TIME: "NEJI GOES FULL COWARD"

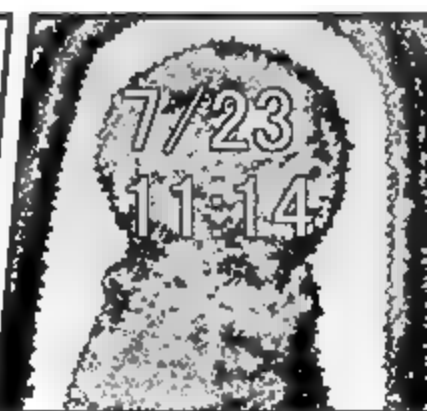
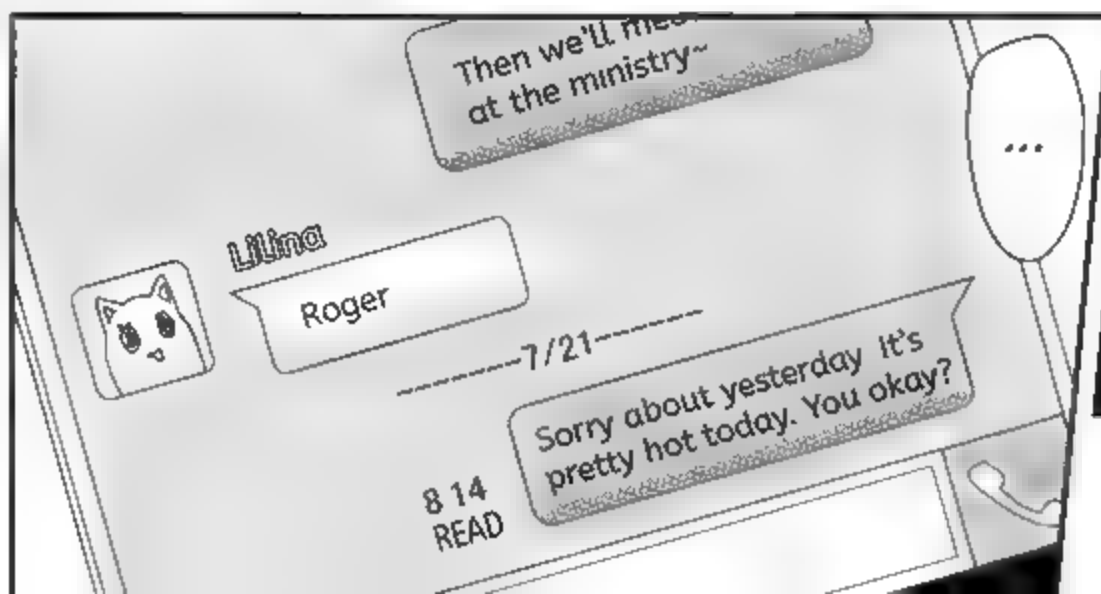
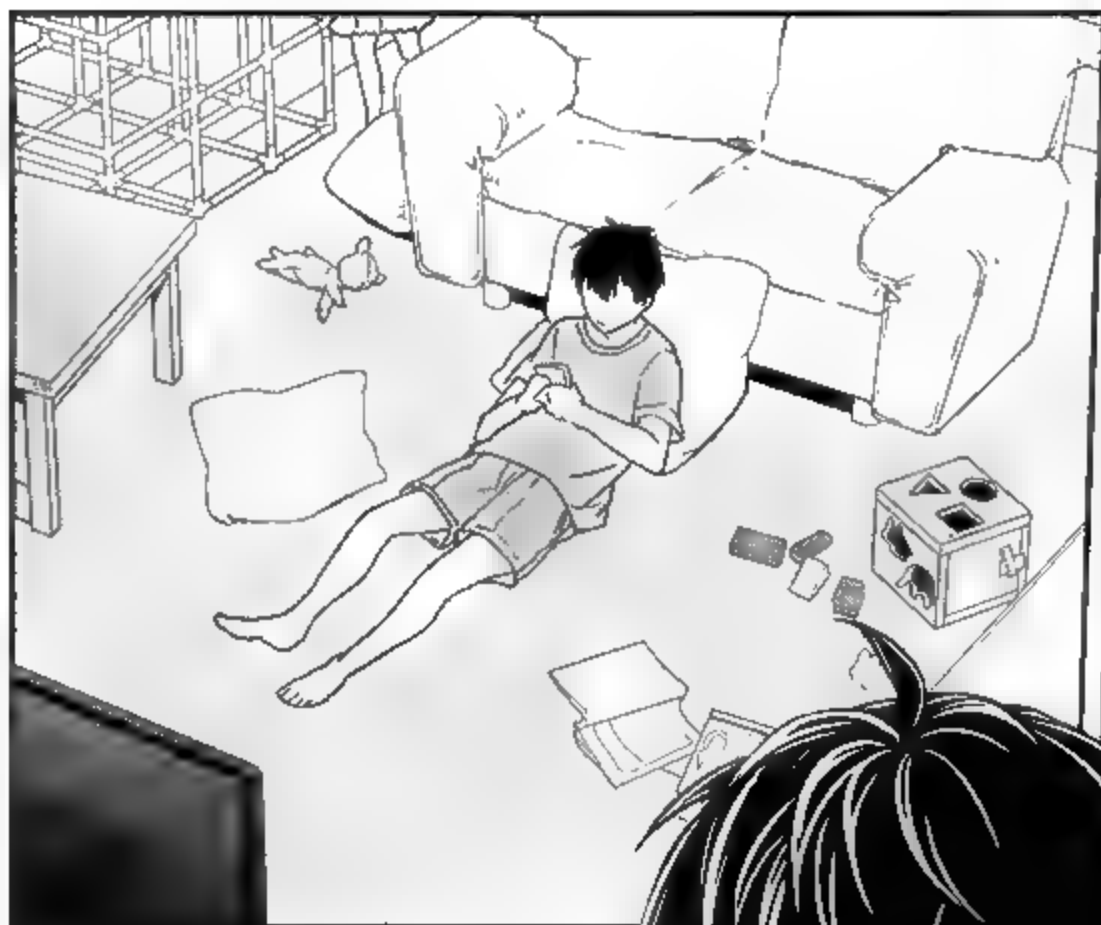


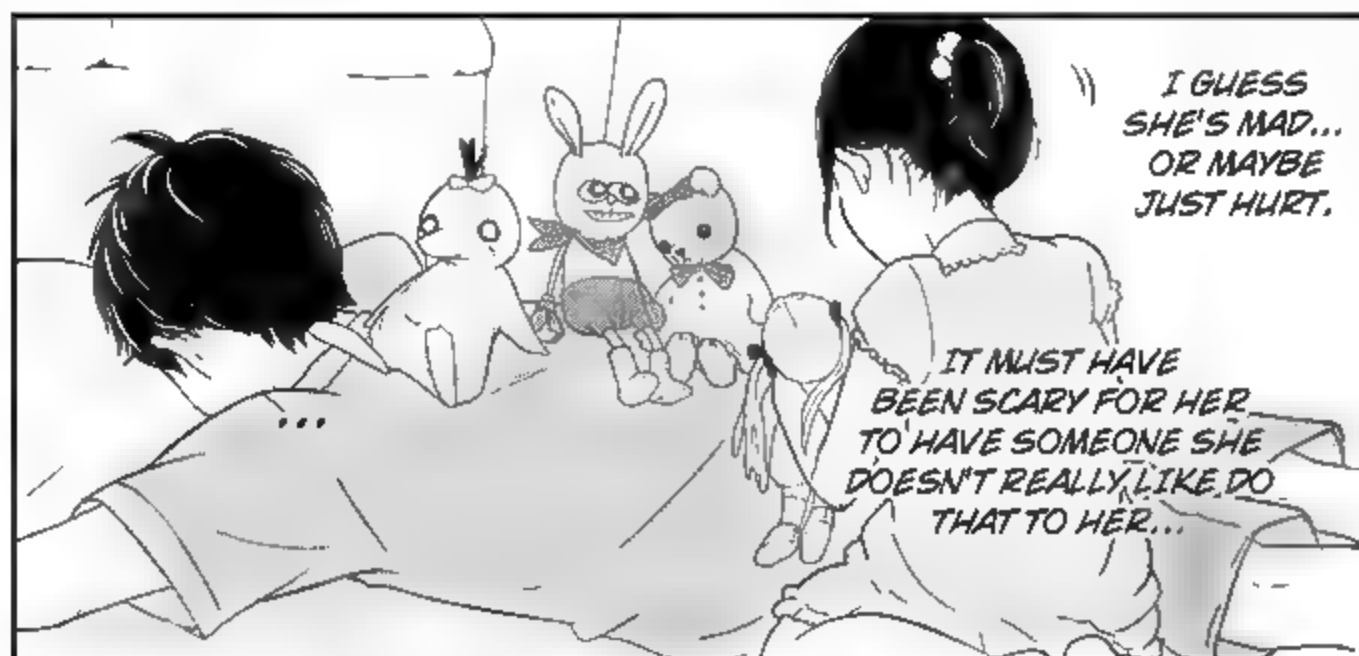


# Love and Lies

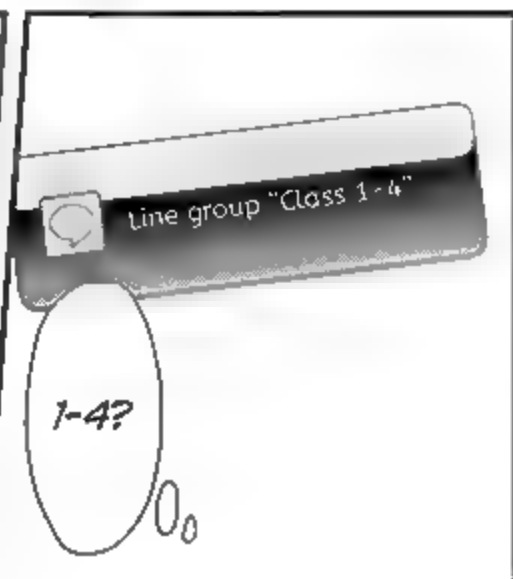
Neji and Lilina.

After that night, there's an uncomfortable distance between them...















HUH?

WHAT'S  
THIS GOT  
TO DO  
WITH  
BAGS?

WELL,  
NOTHING,  
BUT...

I'M  
SORRY, BUT  
PLEASE  
DON'T TALK  
ABOUT  
BAGS  
RIGHT  
NOW.



スライド  
SLIDE

SHE  
WOULD  
?

HA HA

LOOKS  
LIKE  
IT!

KATOU  
IS SUPER  
INTO THIS.  
SHE WAS  
SAYING  
SHE'D KILL  
ANYONE WHO  
DOESN'T  
SHOW UP

チャタ  
CHATTER  
チャタ  
CHATTER

バブル  
BUBBLE

A LOT OF  
PEOPLE  
SHOWED  
UP, HUH?

バブル  
BUBBLE



IT'S TAKASAKI-SAN!  
SHE'S BEEN AVOIDING HIM SINCE THE  
CAMPING TRIP, AND THIS IS THE FIRST  
TIME THEY'VE FACED EACH OTHER  
SINCE THEN!

BUMP  
はっ  
たり



NEXT TIME: "NISAKA, FEELING BITTER"



# Love and Lies

It's not just Neji's relationship with Lilina that's gotten awkward. Things are weird with Takasaki-san, too.

And now poor Nisaka is suffering more than ever!



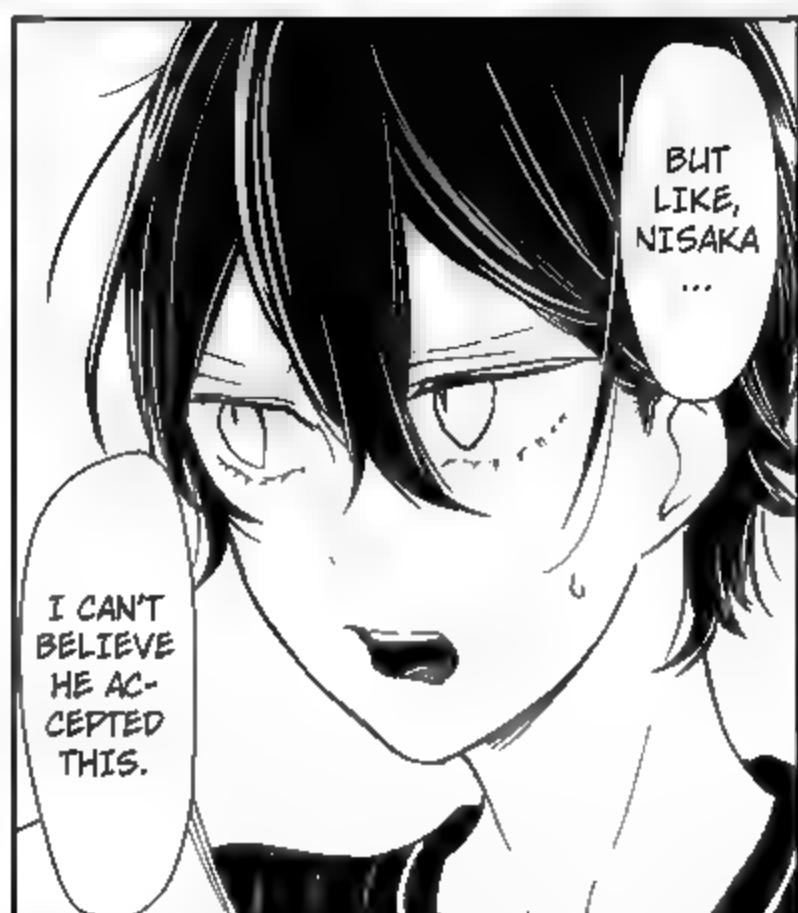














OR  
SOME-  
THING?

LOVE  
THAT  
WILL  
NEVER  
BE REAL-  
IZED...

SO IT  
SHOULD  
BE LIKE  
WE'RE  
BURNING  
WITH  
A...



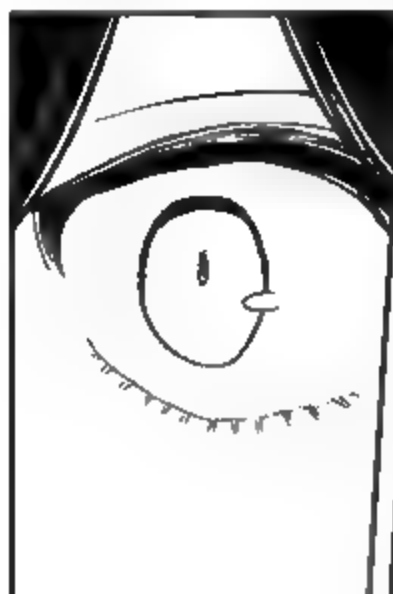
DO  
YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND  
THAT  
KIND OF  
EXQUI-  
SITE  
NUANCE  
?!

MAKE IT  
SEXIER  
...  
AND  
SAD-  
DER!



TAKA-  
SAKI...  
YOU...

YEAH,  
LIKE  
THAT!  
JUST  
LIKE  
THAT!



BINK  
2  
5  
10





NEJI SEEMS GLUM, AND  
ROMEO LOOKS ON. WHAT DOES  
THAT GLANCE REALLY MEAN?

NEXT TIME: "NEJI'S HIT"

# Love and Lies

 MangaBox

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI



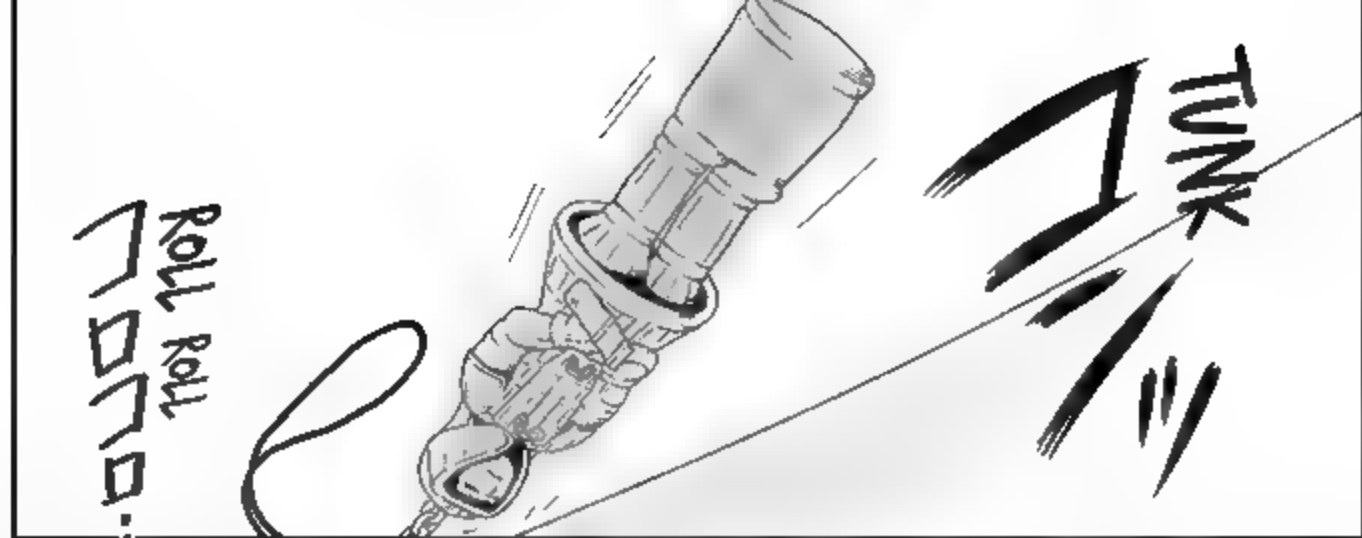
The boy  
Nejima's  
mind  
wanders  
off.

TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD  
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON  
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC















I THOUGHT  
COMING BACK  
TO SCHOOL  
WOULD BE A GOOD  
DISTRACTION,  
BUT NOW THIS,  
HUH...

OW...



YES,  
MA'AM  
...

THANK  
YOU  
VERY  
MUCH  
...

IT  
MIGHT BE  
FRACTURED,  
SO IF  
IT STILL  
HURTS  
LATER, GO  
STRAIGHT  
TO THE  
HOSPITAL,  
OKAY?

I'M  
HEAD-  
ING  
OUT.



HE'S  
SMIL-  
ING?!

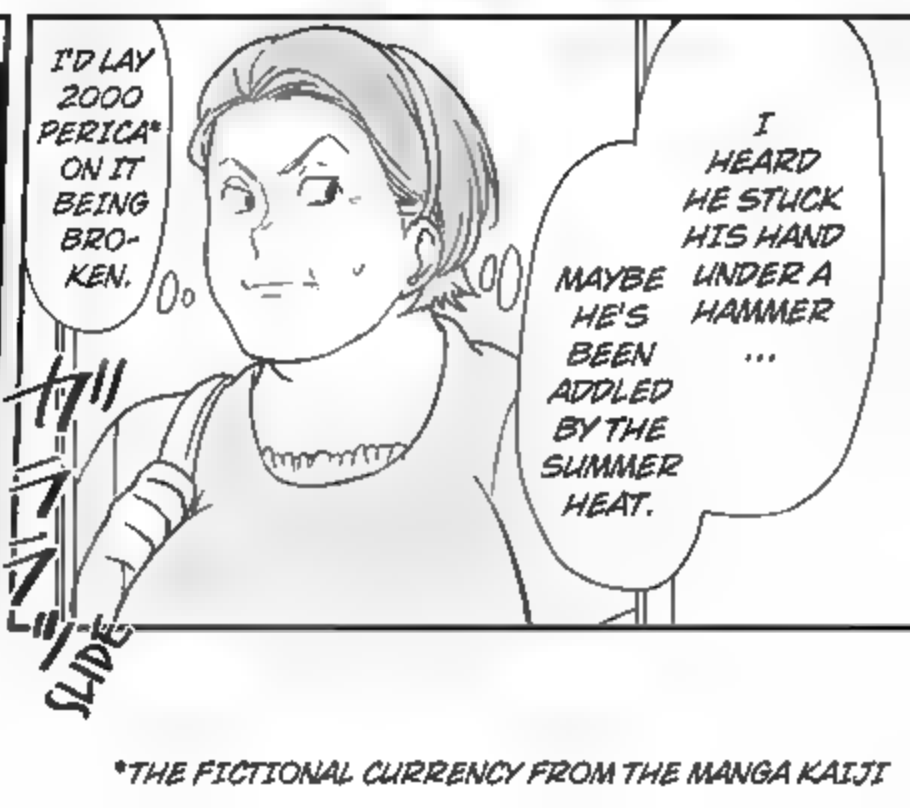


I REALLY AM A  
FAILURE IN EVERY  
SINGLE WAY...

HA  
HA  
HA!



OH!  
DO YOU  
NEED  
SOME-  
THING,  
TOO?



I'D LAY  
2000  
PERICA\*  
ON IT  
BEING  
BRO-  
KEN.

SLIDE

I  
HEARD  
HE STUCK  
HIS HAND  
UNDER A  
HAMMER  
...  
MAYBE  
HE'S  
BEEN  
ADDLED  
BY THE  
SUMMER  
HEAT.

\*THE FICTIONAL CURRENCY FROM THE MANGA KAIJI







# Love and Lies

Take a deep breath and gather your wits...  
Be collected...  
Act normal...  
Show your best self...  
Because that certain someone is standing  
before you.









**YOU'RE  
ACTING  
WEIRD  
TODAY,  
NEJIMA-  
KUN.**

**EVEN  
I'M  
SUR-  
PRISED.**

**I STUCK  
MY HAND  
UNDER A  
HAMMER...  
I'M PRETTY  
DUMB,  
HLH? HA  
HA HA...**

**I WAS  
SUR-  
PRISED  
TO HEAR  
THAT YOU  
GOT  
HURT...**

**UM...**



**DID  
SOMETHING  
HAPPEN?**













# Love and Lies

Hey, Takasaki-san! Maybe  
this is an obvious question, but...  
what the heck is a “no-Neji rule?”



AND  
IT'S  
WRONG  
OF ME  
TO DO  
THAT TO  
LILI-  
CHAN.

I  
MEAN,  
I DON'T  
HAVE  
THE  
RIGHT  
...



WH-  
WHY  
...?



THAT'S  
WHY I  
MADE  
THAT  
RULE.

BUT  
EVEN  
SO...  
  
I  
HAVEN'T  
DONE  
A VERY  
GOOD JOB  
STICKING  
TO IT.



AND MY  
HEART  
CAN'T TAKE  
LIKING  
YOU ANY  
MORE  
THAN  
THIS...

Heavenly Mumble







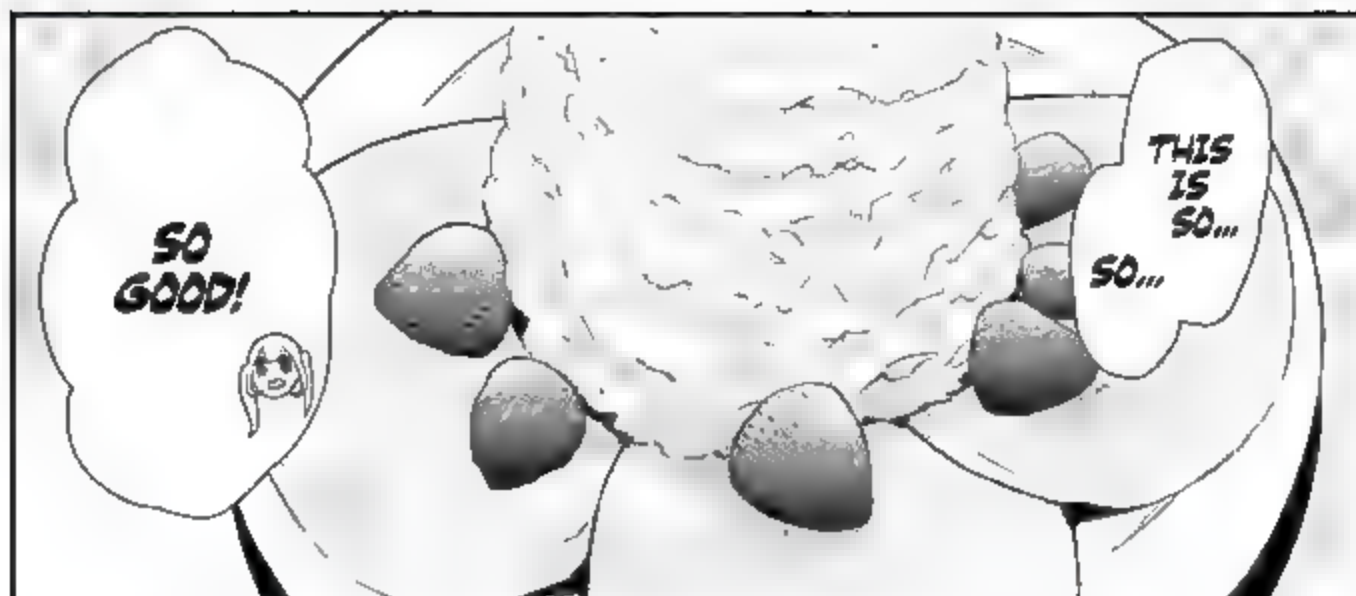






SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT WITH THE PEOPLE SHE CARES ABOUT, AND SHE WANTS TO DO SOMETHING FOR THEM... BECAUSE BOTH NEJI AND LILINA ARE IMPORTANT TO HER.

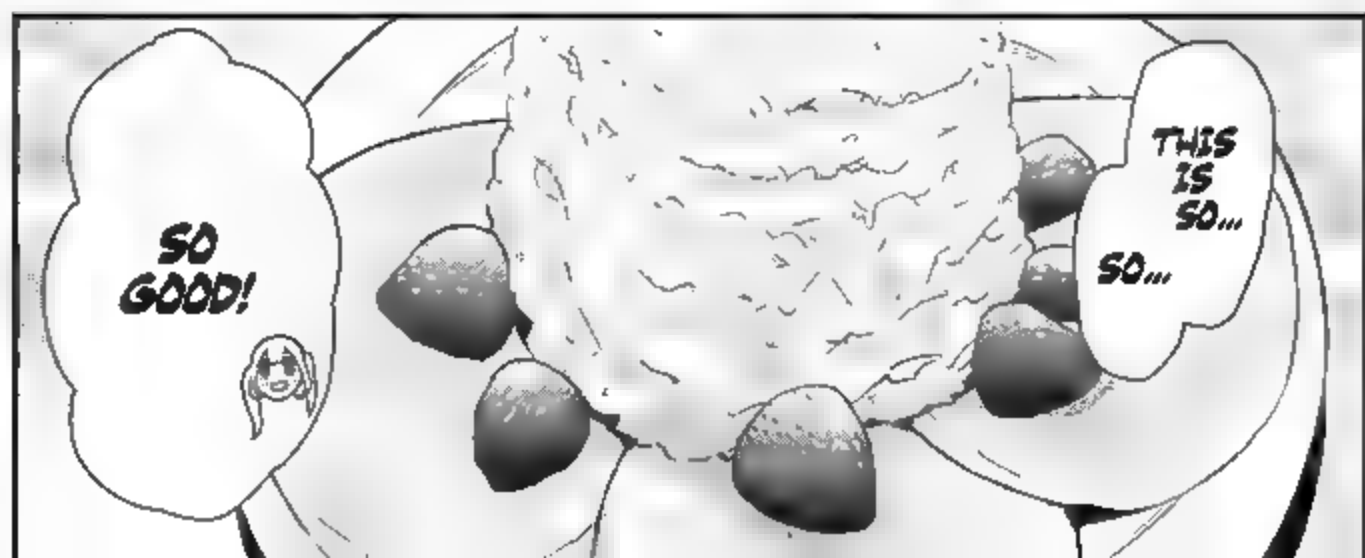




# Love and Lies

There's Takasaki-san, Lilina,  
and then pancakes in between them...

A simple thing like pancakes  
just happens to bring the topic of  
conversation around to Neji.







IT'S  
A...  
REALLY  
BORING  
AND  
POINT-  
LESS  
STORY,  
THOUGH.



DURING PRACTICE  
COOKING IN HOME EC  
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...

OUR TWO CLASSES  
HAD THE CLASS TOGETHER.  
WE SPLIT INTO GROUPS FOR  
COOKING...

AND NEJIMA-KUN'S  
GROUP MADE SOME  
REALLY NICE PANCAKES.



OH,  
NO, HE  
CAN'T  
REALLY  
...



YEP.

THAT'S  
SURPRIS-  
ING...  
I DIDN'T  
KNOW HE  
COULD  
COOK.



YUKARI  
MADE  
PANCAKES?





I WAS JUST REMEMBERING THAT.

BUT HE SAID ALL HE COULD MAKE WAS CURRY AND PAN-CAKES.



HE'D HELP OUT AT HOME BY COOKING EVERY DAY.

I HEARD THAT AFTER HIS SISTER WAS BORN ...

THAT'S SO NICE!



...

JEZI!



YEAH!

IT'S HARD THOUGH, DOING ALL THIS! MY MOM CAN'T MOVE AT ALL!

BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE CURRY EVERY DAY!

HEY, I CAN MAKE PAN-CAKES, TOO!

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING WORTH BRAGGING OVER!



BUT...



THAT'S NUTRI-  
TIONALLY CONCERN-  
ING.



JUST...  
CURRY  
AND PAN-  
CAKES?



HIS PAN-  
CAKES.

BACK  
THEN...

I  
REALLY  
WANTED  
TO TRY...



AND  
NEJIMA-  
KUN  
HASN'T  
BEEN  
FEELING  
VERY  
GOOD.

LATELY  
I'VE BEEN  
GOING TO  
SCHOOL TO  
PREPARE  
FOR THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
...

BUT  
ANY-  
WAY...



YOU  
MEAN HE'S  
SICK? OR  
IS IT JUST  
SUMMER  
FATIGUE?

...  
HE  
HASN'T  
BEEN  
FEELING  
WELL?



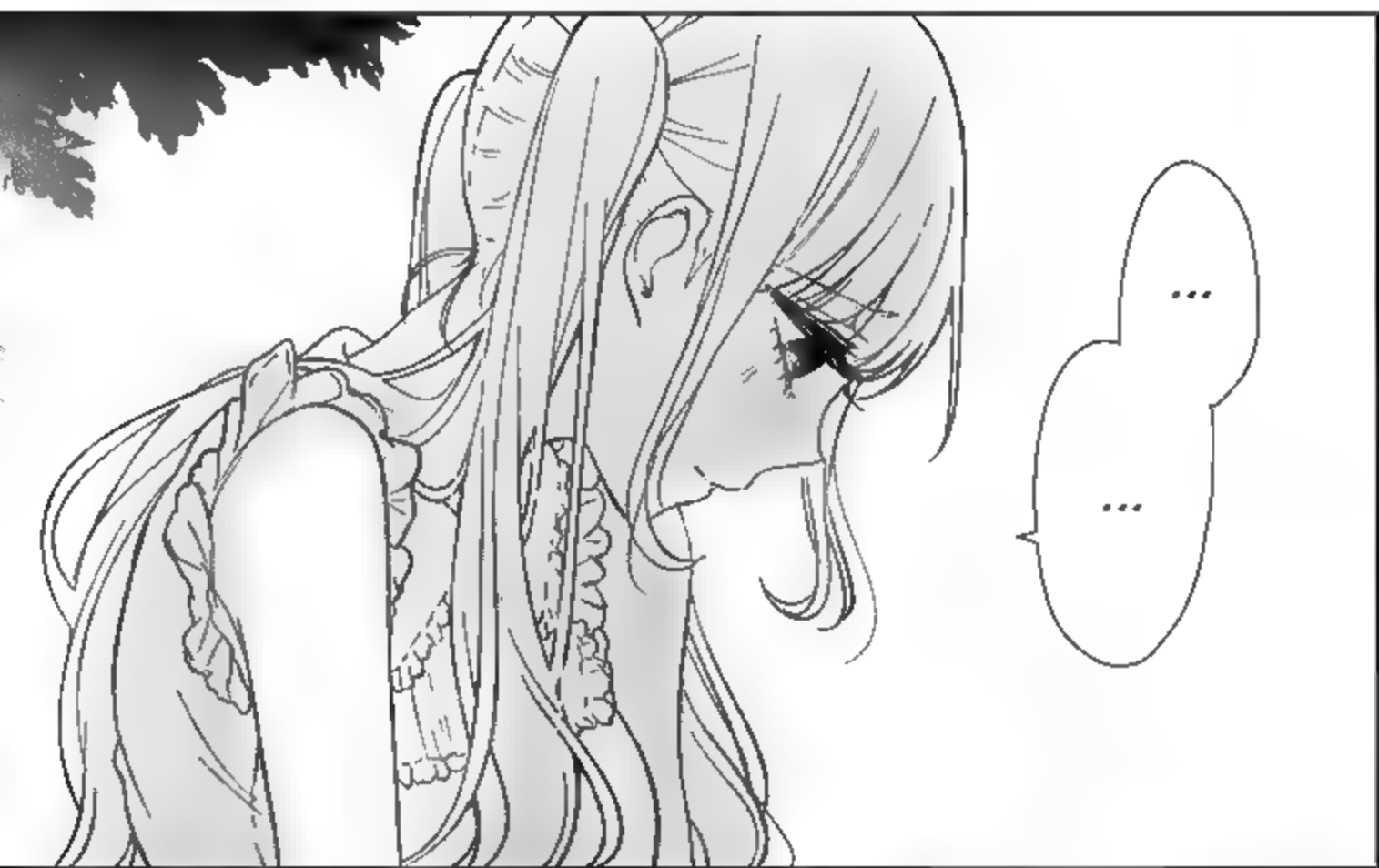
DO  
YOU  
KNOW  
ANY-  
THING,  
LILI-  
CHAN?

IT  
JUST  
SEEMS  
LIKE  
SOME-  
THING  
IS UP  
AND I'M  
WOR-  
RIED.

OH, NO,  
HE'S NOT  
SICK.



A  
LITTLE  
WHILE  
AGO...





IT'S  
WEIRD  
...

I-I-  
CHA...

...

I  
DON'T  
WANT  
TO SEE  
HIM...

BUT  
I FEEL  
REALLY  
LONELY.



IT'S  
AN ODD  
FEEL-  
ING.

MAYBE  
IT'S  
THE HEAT  
GETTING  
TO ME.

...

THIS IS THE DAZZLING MELANCHOLY  
OF A GIRL WHO YEARNS FOR LOVE.

NEXT TIME:  
"NEJIMA AND YAJIMA"



# Love and Lies

It's as if Neji's fate is somehow...  
tied to this man!





WHY  
PEOPLE  
FALL IN  
LOVE.

SOMETIMES,  
I WONDER...



TO THESE  
PAINFUL,  
BURDEN-  
SOME  
FEELINGS?

WHY  
DO WE  
ABANDON  
OUR-  
SELVES  
...



AH,  
DEAR  
JULIET,  
WHY ART  
THOU  
YET SO  
FAIR?



OKAY!  
NOW  
ROMEO,  
SAY IT  
HURTS!







I  
SHOULDN'T  
BE SUR-  
PRISED...

I  
GUESS  
...



...AND  
STILL NO  
REPLY  
FROM  
LILINA...



AH...

I'M  
SUCH A  
COWARD.



I'LL PUT  
THE ICON  
IN THIS  
FOLDER  
SO I CAN'T  
SEE IT...

THE ONLY  
MESSAGES  
I GET ARE  
TAKEDA  
GUSHING  
ABOUT HIS  
PARTNER,  
ANYWAY.

I'M  
WEARING  
MYSELF  
OUT  
CHECKING  
MY PHONE  
ALL THE  
TIME TO  
SEE IF  
SHE'S  
MES-  
SAGED  
ME...

MAYBE I  
SHOULD  
JUST TURN  
OFF MY  
ALERTS.



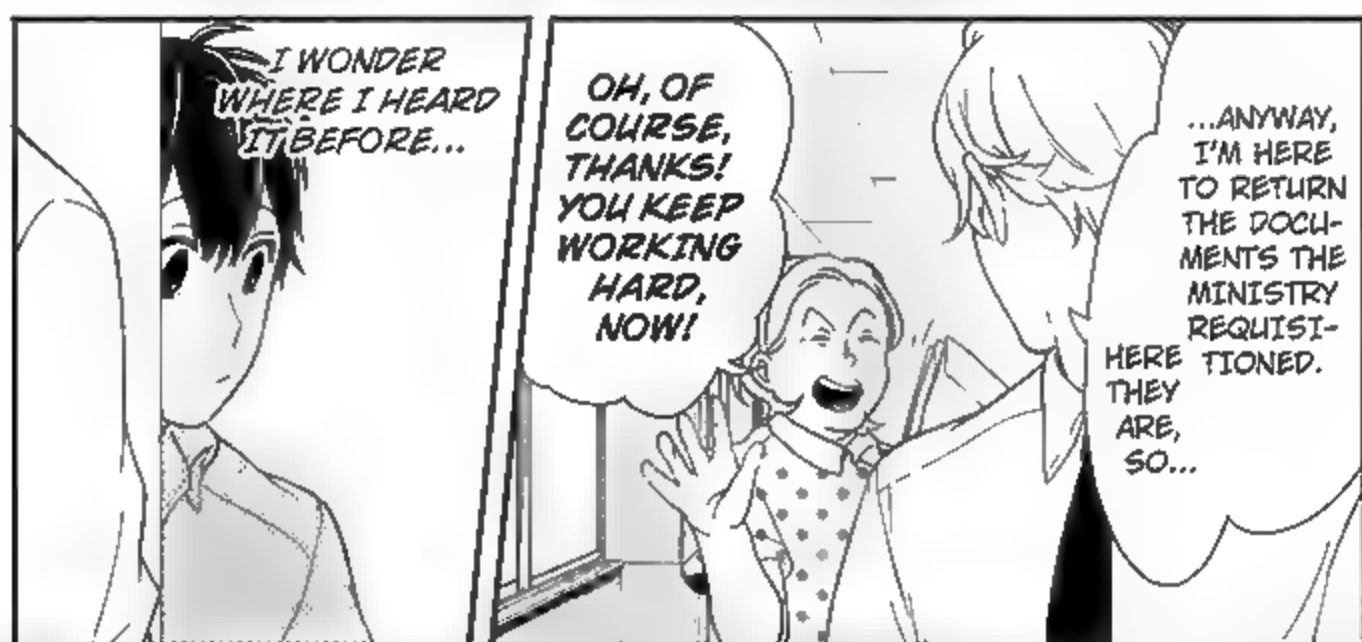
YOU  
KNOW,  
ONE OF  
OUR  
ALUMNI  
...

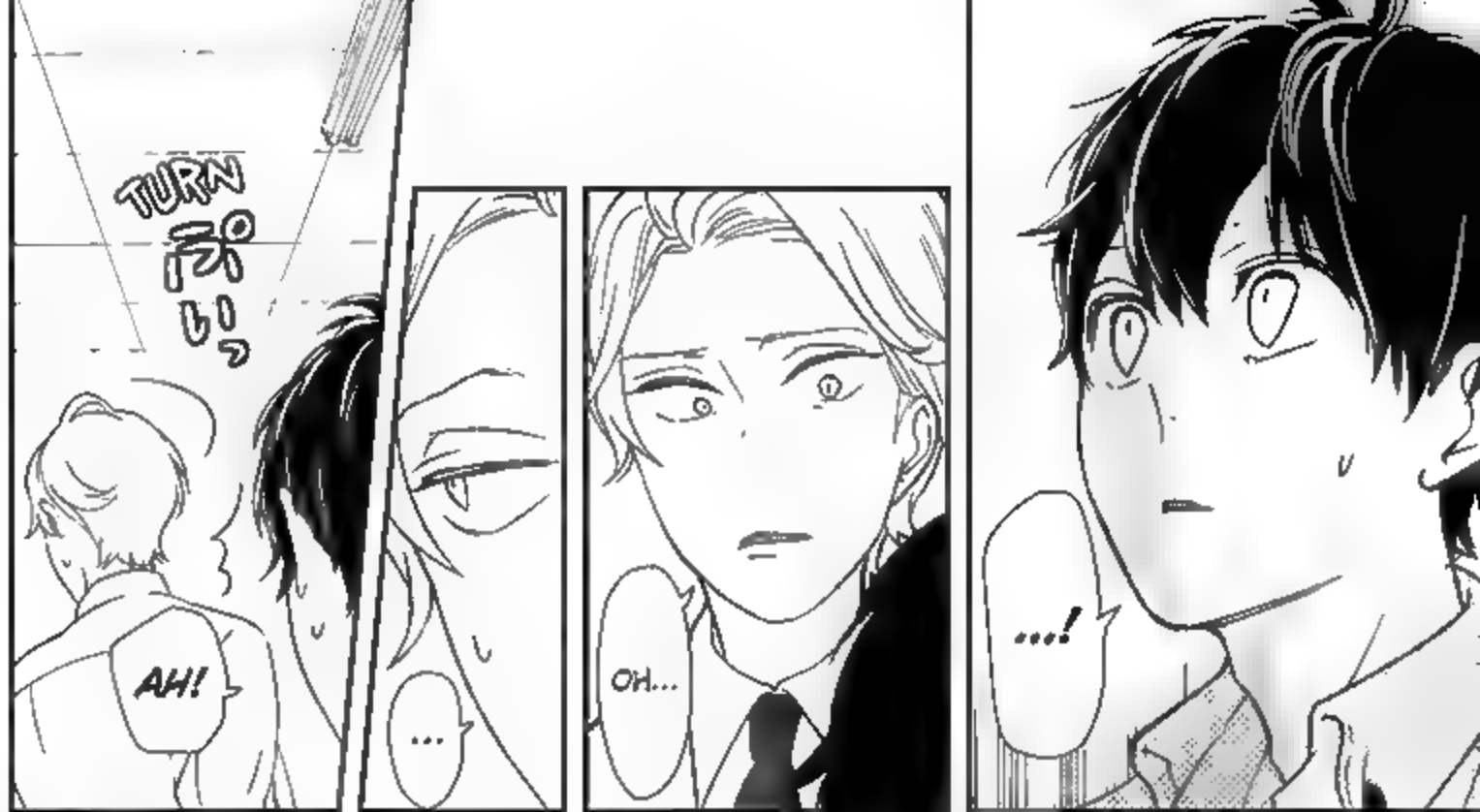
THAT'S  
AMAZING!  
THE  
YUKARI  
DIVISION  
OF THE  
MINISTRY  
IS SO  
ELITE!



I'VE HURT LILINA AND MADE  
TAKASAKI-SAN WORRY...  
BUT THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I CAN  
TALK TO ANYONE ABOUT...

WHAT  
SHOULD I  
DO...?





SO MANY THINGS HE WANTS TO SAY...  
SO MANY THINGS HE WANTS TO ASK.



NEXT TIME: "WHY DO THAT?"



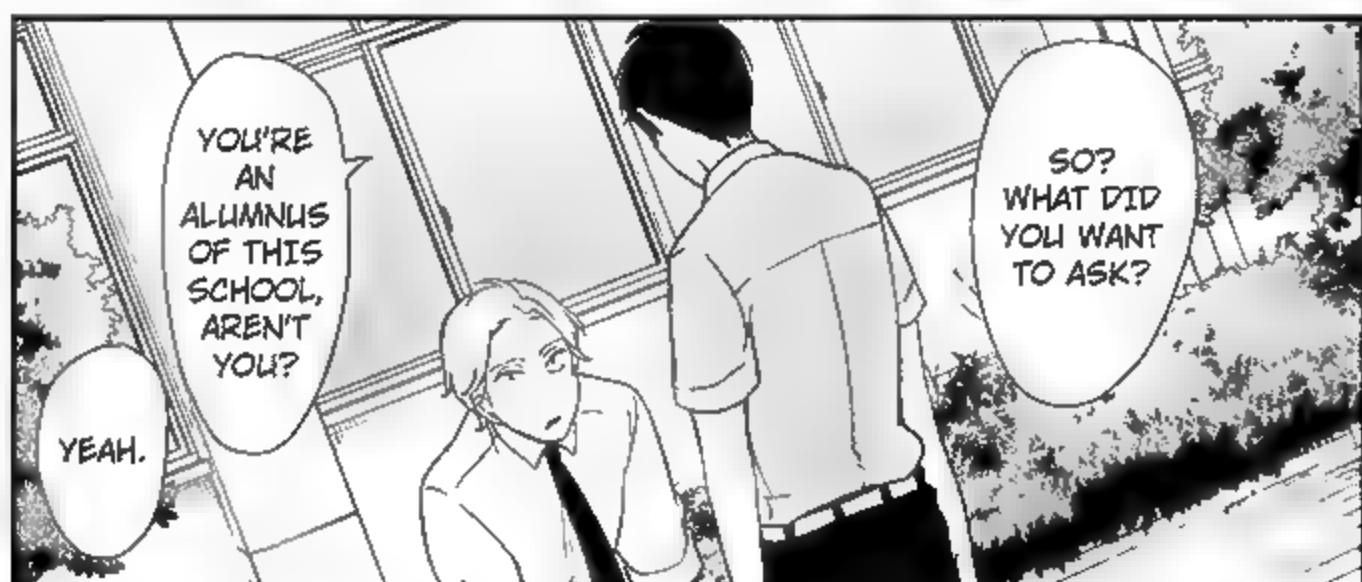


# Love and Lies

Yajima is wary, figuring that Neji is going to demand to know why he was lied to during the special course.

So is Neji going to give him a piece of his mind?







THIS IS  
ABOUT WHAT  
HAPPENED THE  
OTHER DAY,  
ISN'T IT?

AGH...



I SHOULDN'T  
HAVE SAID  
ALL THAT,  
AFTER ALL...

IF IT GETS OUT,  
I MIGHT GET  
DEMOTED.

WHY  
DID YOU  
SAY THAT...?

THAT  
DAY... I  
REALLY  
RAN MY  
MOUTH  
...



SOR--

YEAH,  
I SAID  
SOME  
WEIRD  
STUFF.

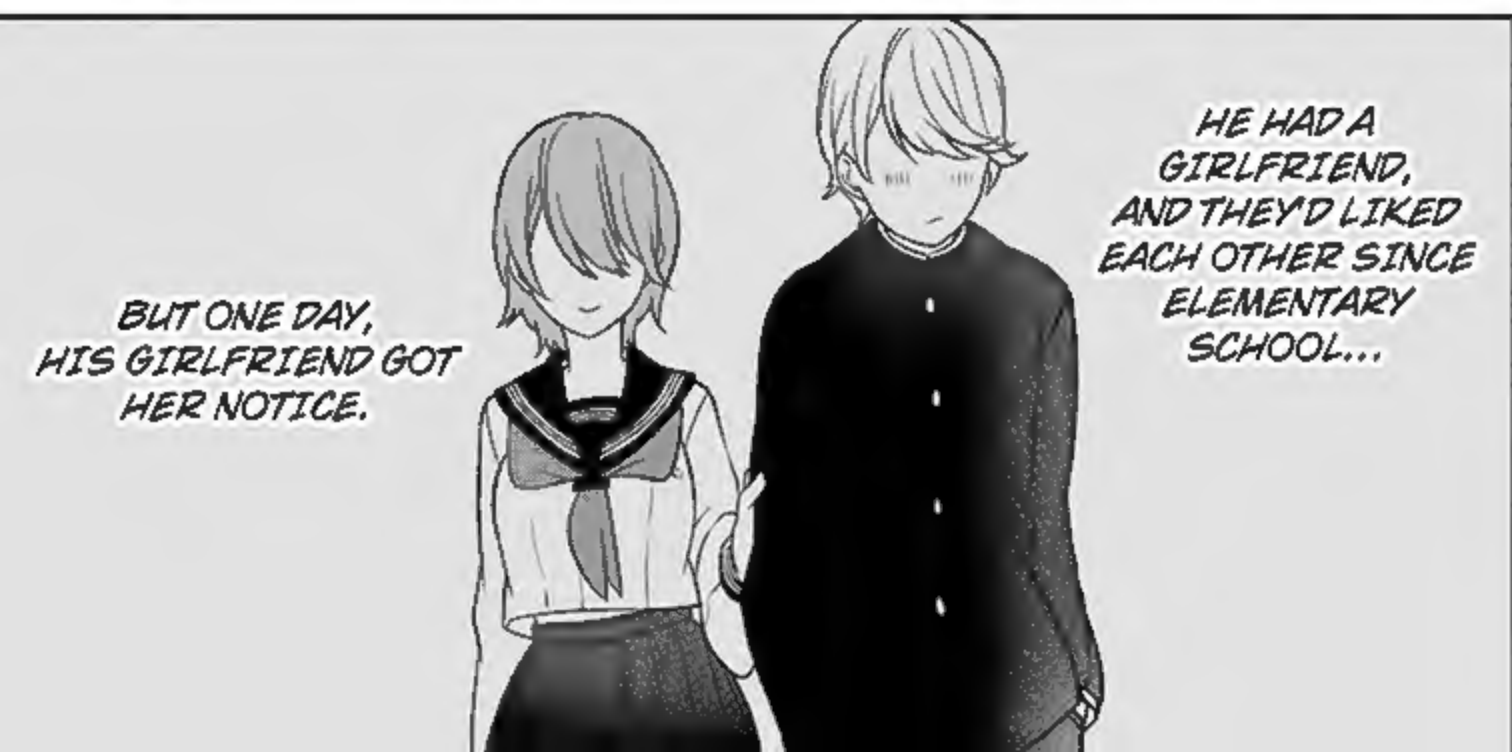
I'M  
SORRY!

UM...  
ABOUT  
WHAT WE  
TALKED  
ABOUT  
AT THE  
SPECIAL  
COURSE  
...

I  
GUESS I  
WOULDN'T  
MIND  
IF I DID,  
THOUGH  
...











SO,  
IF YOU'LL  
MARRY ME,  
I'LL REFUSE  
MY NOTICE.

AND THEN SHE  
SAID THIS...

I LOVE  
YOU.



HE HAD NO  
FOUNDATION TO  
BELIEVE HE  
COULD MAKE  
THAT GIRL  
HAPPY ENOUGH  
TO JUSTIFY  
KICKING HER  
ASSIGNED  
PARTNER  
ASIDE.

AT FIF-  
TEEN, HE  
COULDN'T  
SERIOUSLY  
IMAGINE  
HIMSELF  
GETTING  
MARRIED,  
AND HE  
WAS SHY.

HE  
REALLY  
LOVED  
THAT  
GIRL, BUT  
...

THAT...  
ENDED SO  
QUICKLY.

THAT'S  
WHAT  
HAPPENS  
WHEN  
KIDS  
DATE.



THAT'S  
TOO FAR  
AHEAD...  
I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW.

SO WHAT DO YOU  
THINK HE SAID?

AND THAT  
WAS IT.



WELL,  
IT'S ALL  
OVER  
NOW,  
ANYWAY.

BUT YOU  
KNOW,  
LATER  
WHEN  
HIS OWN  
NOTICE  
CAME AND  
HE MET  
HIS PART-  
NER...

HE  
REALIZED  
JUST HOW  
SPECIAL  
HIS GIRL-  
FRIEND  
HAD BEEN.



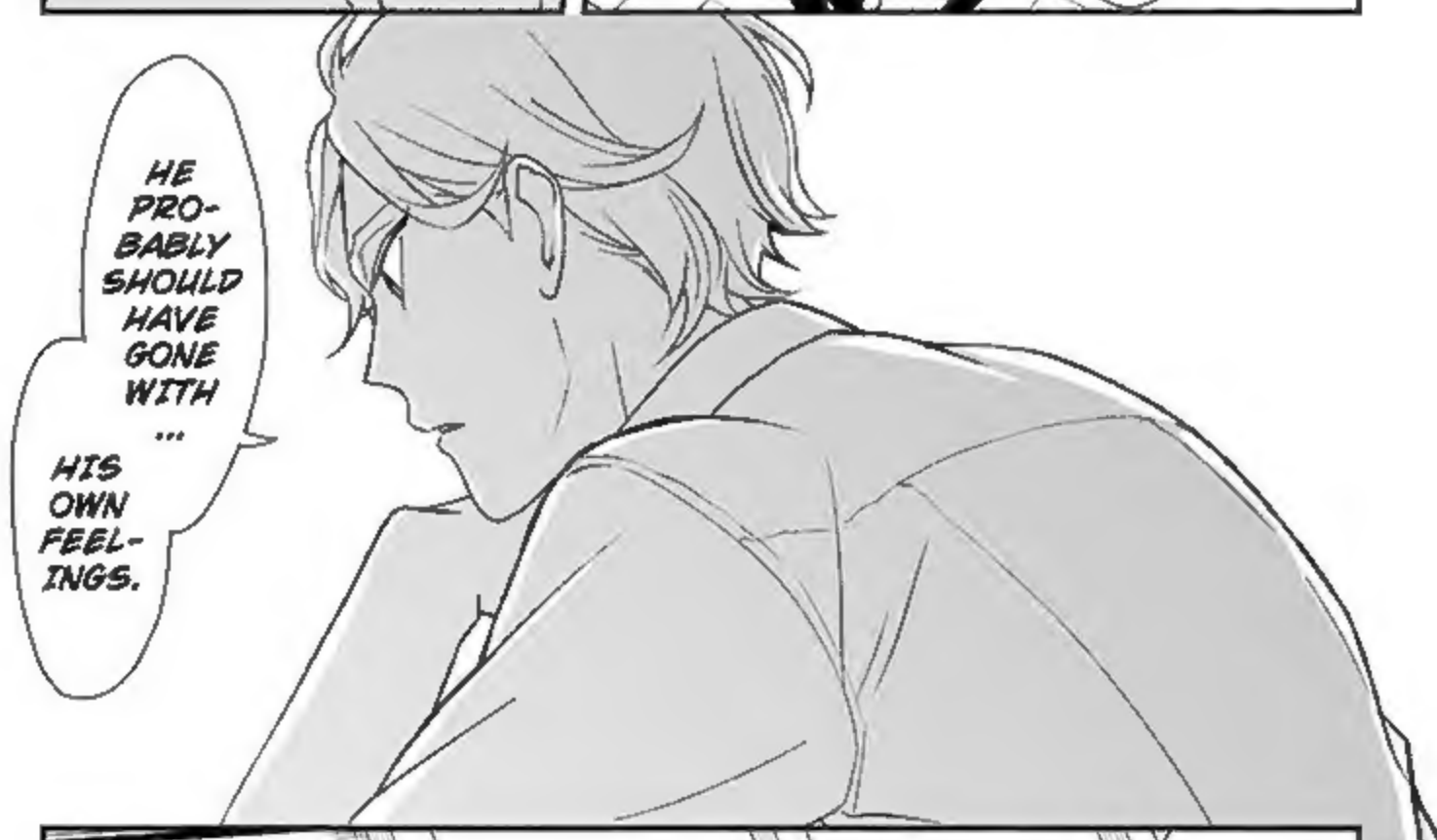
AND  
WHAT  
WAS  
THAT?

THERE  
WAS  
ONLY  
ONE  
RIGHT  
ANSWER.



AT  
THIS  
POINT, I  
THINK  
...

HE'D BEEN  
WORRIED  
ABOUT AP-  
PEARANCES,  
ANXIOUS  
ABOUT THE  
FUTURE,  
AND HE  
HADN'T  
SEEN THE  
TRUTH.



HE  
PRO-  
BABLY  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
GONE  
WITH  
...

HIS  
OWN  
FEEL-  
INGS.



DON'T  
YOU  
THINK  
?

...!

THIS MAN'S WORDS, OF ALL THINGS, WILL  
BE THE THING TO TRIGGER HIS RECOVERY?  
IT'S TOO EARLY TO BE LOSING HEART.

WELL,  
THIS IS  
SECOND-  
HAND  
INFORMA-  
TION, SO  
I'M JUST  
SPECULAT-  
ING.

ANY-  
WAY,  
UNLIKE  
THAT  
LOSER  
...  
YOU  
CAN  
STILL  
STRUG-  
GLE.

NEXT TIME: "HONEST FEELINGS"